



# OMES at-a-Glance



## News for Otis A. Mason Families

November 17, 2021

207 Mason Manatee Way, St. Augustine, FL 32086  
(904) 547-8440 – main (904) 547-8445 – fax

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

### Manatee Highlight: Do You Know Nurse Johna?



Have you ever been in class and realized that you did not feel well? No need to fear! Our under-the-weather Manatees know they can come to Nurse Johna's clinic and feel "right at home" with our very own nurse extraordinaire!

We thought our Manatees would like to know Nurse Johna a little better. Did you know that she is originally from Queens, New York? She also lived in Colorado. She decided to move to Florida because she used to visit our Sunshine state when she was a child and she fell in love with it. Nurse Johna has always loved helping people. Since she was 10 years old, she knew she wanted to work in the medical profession. Since setting that goal, she became an RN in 1992 and has been helping people like us ever since.

#### Q & A with Nurse Johna:

If you could belong to a Harry Potter House, which would it be?  
**Ravenclaw (it's official, she took the quiz)**

Who is your favorite superhero?

**Wolverine (she named her soon Logan)**

What is the weirdest job that you have ever had?

**Nurse Johna used to take and develop x-rays for a dentist!**

What is your biggest "pet peeve"?

**Lying. People should ALWAYS tell the truth 😊**

What is something that people should know about you?

**Nurse Johna is a HUGE Star Wars fan. Star Wars came out in the movie theater when she was 5 years old, and it changed her life. The soundtrack was the first album she owned. If you are ever in the clinic, check out her knitted Star Wars collection!**

Next time you are in the Front Office, stop by and say "hello" to Nurse Johna. Check out her newest creative project like her decked-out door or her hand-painted window! She can't wait to meet you!

### Character Highlight: THIS Month is ALL About CITIZENSHIP!

This month we have been focusing on the Character Counts Pillar of Citizenship. Our district believes that every child has the potential to be a good citizen and we need YOUR help! Please help us build character in your child by working on the following:

- Consider what good citizenship in your household looks like: how can every family member contribute to the household? Make a list of age-appropriate chores and responsibilities for every member of the family.
- Discuss what good citizenship at school looks like: how can parents and students contribute to our Otis Mason community to make the school a better place for everyone?
- Demonstrate what it means to be a good neighbor: how can we serve those who need us in our neighborhood? What age-appropriate tasks could our Manatees help with? How can we politely acknowledge our neighbors when we see them? Even a smile can be an act of neighborly love!
- Support students in the decision-making process. Guide them to make choices that protect the safety and rights of others. Does that choice leave a place better than we found it?
- Lead by example: protect the environment, get involved, vote, CARE!

Teachers will be providing lessons that discuss the importance of citizenship 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!

### Parent Pick Up and Drop Off:

**Parent Drop Off:** All parents dropping their student(s) off in the a.m. must drop their students off from the car rider loop. Parents will enter **the second gate**. Parents are NOT to pull in the bus loop (the first gate) park and walk their student(s) up to the student entry.

**Parent Pick Up:** All parents are to pick up their student (s) from the car rider loop. This is, again, **the second gate**. All persons picking up student(s) must have their YELLOW placard. If the yellow placard isn't presented, the student must be checked out from the front office with a photo ID. Occasionally, OMES staff will direct parents to enter the bus loop. Note, this only occurs when directed by our OMES staff.

## Community Involvement:

**OTIS MASON PTO:** Like and follow us on Facebook at **OtisMasonPTO** for news and updates. We are always looking for new members and new volunteers. Email the PTO with questions at [otismasonpto@gmail.com](mailto:otismasonpto@gmail.com).

**OTIS MASON SAC:** SAC meets the **second Tuesday of the month in the Media Center! December 7 at 3:30pm** is our next meeting. Come support our school, our community, and our children!

**Growth Mindset Parent Workshop:** The SJCSJ hosted a FREE workshop for all parents and guardians regarding the work of Carol Dweck. Considering reading her book *Mindset*. No worries if you missed the free workshop. The recording is available at: <https://vimeo.com/639257298/ca1b2ae613>

**Technology 101: Digital Literacy:** The SJCSJ is offering a FREE workshop to assist parents with the digital tools used in school: Schoology, HAC, and online textbooks. Please contact [susan.connor@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:susan.connor@stjohns.k12.fl.us) for more information. A video will be available after the workshop.

**SJCSJ's Thanksgiving Meal program:** Do you wish to give or receive this Thanksgiving holiday? R.J. Murray Middle School is hosting an adopt-a-family Thanksgiving event. If donating, please make checks payable to R.J. Murray Middle School and to participate, send questions to 904-547-8472.

**Hope for the Holidays:** Catholic Charities is accepting applications for this holiday charity program. If you need assistance, please call 904-829-6300. Applications for assistance are being accepted now.

## CONGRATULATIONS, MANATEES!

### Teacher of the Year:

**Ms. Ashley Cothron** is our 2021-2022 Teacher of the Year! We are so proud of our fifth-grade teacher extraordinaire and the impact that she leaves on our students, our school, and our community. You are incredible!

### Rookie Teacher of the Year:

**Ms. Nicole Hayes** is our 2021-2022 Rookie Teacher of the Year! Way to go, Ms. Hayes! Thank you for making our ESE department extra special. You make the world a better place.

### Support Related Employee of the Year:

**Mr. Todd Bowen** is our 2021-2022 Employee of the Year! Mr. Todd has mastered the art of being in multiple places at the same time (or so it seems). Thanks for being our school hero!

## Technology Corner:

Need help accessing one of our services online?

### SCHOOLGY ACCESS:

[Stjohnsschools.schoology.com](http://Stjohnsschools.schoology.com)

You will then be prompted to sign into Microsoft: [S#####@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:S#####@stjohns.k12.fl.us) and the student's password

### HOME ACCESS CENTER (HAC):

HAC access is through the parent-provided email address and password. Please call the Front Office if you are having access issues (547-8440). Students have access to HAC with their student ID number and password.

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/hac/>

### SCHOOL ACCESS FORM:

[Stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply](http://Stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply)

### ACCELERATED READER HOME CONNECT:

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

### SCHOOL MESSENGER:

Opt-in to school messages here:

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/schoolmessenger/>

## We've Got Clubs:

This year, OMES is happy about getting back to extracurricular activities. Please contact club sponsors for more information. Please see below for our list of clubs:

**GIRLS BASKETBALL** with Coach Allen

**BOYS BASKETBALL** with Coach Gurick

**CHEERLEADING** with Coach Hayes

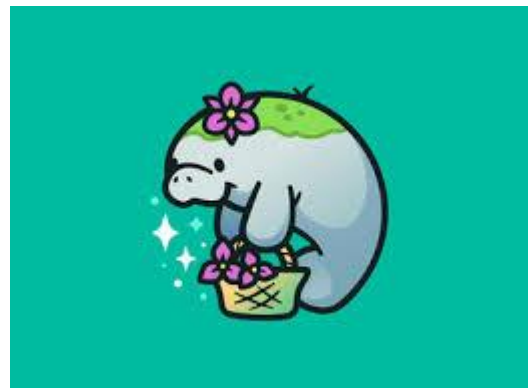
**RUNNING CLUB** with Coach Rusch

**STEEL DRUM BAND** with Mr. Bennett

**ROBOTICS LEGO LEAGUE** with Ms. Cothron and Mr. Thomas

**STUDENT COUNCIL** with Ms. Hayes

**GOOD NEWS CLUB** will begin in January



## Are you interested in helping our SJC students to succeed?

### We are looking for passionate substitute teachers!

The SJCSO is hiring substitute teachers for this school year. Please apply by going to the SJCSO website. Our next posting will be December 16 through January 5. Our community is always looking for life-long learners to inspire our students to make good choices. We would love for you to join our team!



## Tis the Season for our Holiday Shop!



We are so excited to host this year's Holiday Shop on December 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>. Your student will visit the holiday shop this week so they can buy holiday gifts for their entire family. Each student looks forward to this enjoyable, jolly time of the year to shop for Christmas gifts for their family. They LOVE the idea of shopping for their sisters, brothers, grands, cousins, uncles, aunts, friends, and mostly you, the parents! These meaningful gifts are festively wrapped and kept secret under your tree until the big day! Students will have the opportunity to shop for gifts priced between \$1.00 and \$20.00.

### Important Dates:

**November 17:** OMES Basketball Game! Girls @ 5:30/Boys @ 6:30

**November 24-26:** Thanksgiving Holiday Break

**December 1:** OMES Basketball Game! Girls @ 5:30/Boys @ 6:30

**December 3-13:** Candy Cane Grams

**December 6-10:** Holiday Shop!

**December 7:** SAC Meeting at 3:30pm in the Media Center

**December 21:** End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester; Winter break!

**January 6:** Students return to class

**January 19:** Report Cards go live on HAC



## A Thank You from Otis Mason:

### We LOVE our Volunteers!

In this issue, we have discussed what it means to be a good citizen, the importance of volunteering, and the necessity of gratitude in our lives. In that spirit we would like to say: We here at Otis Mason would like to thank our OMES PTO. Your support makes our school year magical! Parents, thank for your contributions to Raise Craze and your ongoing kindness to our teachers, faculty, and staff. We thank our parents for helping students with their homework and actively engaging in their student's grade level success. YOU are the key to our vision here at Otis Mason Elementary School:

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.