



# OMES at-a-Glance



## News for Otis A. Mason Families Summer 2022 Edition

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

### A Word from our Administration



Mrs. Raynor and Mrs. Keaton

One hundred and eighty days of conversations, kindness, courage, and character is what each year at Otis A. Mason Elementary School brings. We are grateful to our families, parent volunteers, Parent Teacher Organization, and School Advisory Council who are active participants in providing our students the environment they deserve.

We began the school year with enthusiasm and excitement. That enthusiasm continued to gain momentum all year and is beginning to find its way into school year 2022-2023. Our love and passion for our school continues to grow. We believe our destination is excellence and, day by day, we work to make each moment count. We are looking forward to our school's continued success, and we know we cannot do it without the support of our amazing Otis A. Mason families.

### Passport to Summer Learning:

Dear Parents,

Last week, your child came home with a "Passport to Summer Learning" packet for the grade he/she will be entering for 2022-2023 school year! Parents, we encourage you to work with your child over the summer to ensure he/she is not only ready for the next grade, but also, that there is no "Summer Slide" (see below).

Included in the packet is the lesson assignment page, which need scores and a parent's initials. The Passport to Summer Learning packet also includes a parent information letter and a school supply list for the grade the student is entering.

Students will be rewarded for completion of this packet! Teachers will be accepting them during the first week of the 2022-2023 school year!

P.S. Special note: AR is available from June 3<sup>rd</sup> – July 30<sup>th</sup> ONLY, so make sure you complete your AR goals by July 30<sup>th</sup>! 😊

Please use the link for our OMES website to access your child's Passport to Summer Learning:

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



### Summer Slide Statistics

And How to Avoid the Summer Slide

- Over 2 ½ months of math skills are lost over summer
- 2 months of reading skills are lost over summer
- Teachers spend 6 weeks reteaching old material
- Spend just 2-3 hours per week during summer to avoid the summer slide!

### HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads 20:00 minutes per day	A student who reads 5:00 minutes per day	A student who reads 1:00 minute per day
will be exposed to 1.8 MILLION words per year and scores in 90th PERCENTILE on standardized tests	will be exposed to 282,000 words per year and scores in 50th PERCENTILE on standardized tests	will be exposed to 8,000 words per year and scores in 10th PERCENTILE on standardized tests

## Free & Reduced Meal Program:

In the 2022-2023 school year, free lunch will only be available based on financial need. Previously, Otis A. Mason Elementary was able to provide free breakfast and lunch to ALL students throughout the pandemic. This program will now be needs-based ONLY. If your family needs assistance with meals during the school day, please fill out an application starting on July 1, 2022. Use the link below to apply:

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/food/free/>

## 2022-2023 School Year Information:

Do you have a student returning to school? Please fill out the [Returning Student Verification Form](#) that was sent via email. Didn't receive it? Please call 904-547-8440. **Do you have a new student to OMES?** Please register them here: <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/student/enrollment/#forms>

**July 28<sup>th</sup>:** Our Kindergarten screener will be on campus

**August 9<sup>th</sup>:** "Meet and Greet" Orientation until 11:30am

**August 10<sup>th</sup>:** First Day of School for 1st through 5th Grades

**August 10<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>:** Kindergarten Staggered Start (Your child will attend one of these days per their teacher)

**August 16<sup>th</sup>:** First Day for ALL Kindergarten students



## 2022-2023 Parent Input Survey:

Have information that will help us place your student in the appropriate classroom next school year? Share it here with the link below <https://forms.office.com/r/OahjbAZ0Uj>

QR Code for Parent Input Survey:



## Summer Learning Opportunities:

We know our Manatees are so excited for summertime fun! Just remember the importance of structure and routine:

- \*A routine, age-appropriate bedtime that includes 9 to 12 hours of sleep per night (and no interference by electronic devices!)
- \*Include students in "balancing" their daily meals and do not forget to get outside for 60 minutes of physical activity every day.
- \*Limit screen time (especially before bedtime) and be sure to limit and monitor ALL social media accounts.
- \*Check <https://www.common sense media.org/> to see if media (movie, music, tv show, etc.) is right for your child.
- \*20-30 minutes of reading EVERY day (Try: I read, WE read, YOU read!). Make reading a part of your family bonding time.

Here are some resources to continue learning over the summer:

1. Check out the **Link for Students** page for FREE access to learning resources on the OMES website: <https://www-mes.stjohns.k12.fl.us/links/> (use s##### and school password to access)
2. Check out the **St. Johns County Public Library** System FREE summer programs! Access all the library has to offer here: <https://sjcpls.org/branches/southeast-branch/>
3. Don't forget to prepare for the next school year by checking out the **2022-2023 School Supply** List on the OMES website! <https://www-mes.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>

