

Hamilton Innovator

Mr. Pfeiffer, Principal

Mr. Fuller, Assistant Principal

Mrs. MacDonald, School Administration Manager, 21st Century Site Coordinator



Here's What's Happening Around Hamilton!

Kindergarten- We will soon begin *KinderRoots*, our reading program that encourages our children to think, talk, explore and share stories. They will learn to use literary strategies so they will be strong, fluent readers. We will begin our science unit on gravity. Students will work as engineers to design and build a rollercoaster using curves, hills, and loops! **Pre-K & K Awards 12/17 9:45 am**

First Grade- First-grade Innovators will be using the engineering design process to design and create a playground. Using their knowledge of shapes gained through our math instruction, students will build equipment for their class playground using multiple shapes. In this unit we will read books on our playground theme while working on phonics skills to become fluent readers. During the winter break, please practice math facts, read daily, and discuss what is read with your child to maintain reading skills. **1st Awards 12/18 9:45 am**

Second Grade- Our second graders are using the engineering design process to create a MAGLEV train! Using force, energy, and magnets, the students are working as transportation engineers to create a model train that levitates and safely commutes. We are subtracting two-digit numbers in math using various strategies to solve. Please make sure your child is reading at least 30 minutes a day to keep up with our fluency goals. We hope everyone has a great holiday. See you in the new year! **2nd Awards 12/18 9:00 am & Ms. Hoffman**

Third Grade- Our third grade students are using the engineering design process to create Egyptian light tombs! Using flashlights and mirrors, students will be working together to explore how light travels and reflects. The mission is to reflect light off of mirrors to shine the light on a variety of hieroglyphics that are inside the light tomb. This idea is based off the book, *Omar's Time to Shine*, which students will read the first week of December. Please make sure your child is reading at least 30 minutes a day to keep up with our literature comprehension goals! Have a safe holiday season! **3rd Awards 12/17 9:00 am**

Fourth Grade- Fourth grade had a great time at the Orlando Science Center. Our students enjoyed working in groups on various engineering design projects. In math, we are working with fractions. Please make sure students use their math journal notes each night when doing homework. In reading, we will study how authors convey ideas in prose, plays and dramas. In science, students are learning about rotation and revolution of the Earth and how the shape of the moon changes over the course of a month. Fourth grade wishes everyone has a safe winter break! **4th Awards 12/19 9:00 am & Ms. Leon**

Fifth Grade- Fifth Grade is moving into Earth and space science and will be completing a unit on the solar system and the Milky Way galaxy. We will also review third and fourth grade content on the moon and stars. We will visit the Digital Star Lab with our science coach, Mrs. Thomas, and see space from a different perspective. This is a great time of year for you and your child to observe the moon each night. Ask questions such as, *Where is the moon in relation to the sun?* or *What phase of the moon are you seeing right now?* and, *How do you know?*. **5^h Awards 12/19 9:45 am & Ms. Catalano**

Upcoming Events

December 7

First Lego Robotics Club Competition, Milwee MS

December 10

Hamilton Winter Show, 6:00PM

December 14

CrossCountry Meet, MKMS, 8:30AM
Sanford Christmas Parade, 6:00PM

December 17- December 19

Early Release; Dismissal @ 1PM
No 21st Century or Tutorial

December 20 - January 5

Winter Break, No School

January 6

School Resumes

January 20

No School
MLK Parade, 10AM

January 23

Report Cards
SAC Meeting, 5:00PM
APTT #2, Grades 3-5, 6:00PM
Black History Show

January 25

Aviation Day, Sanford Airport 9AM

January 30

APTT#2, Grades K-2, 6:00PM
Black History Show

News and Notes

Dismissal Information

We have seen an increase in the number of students not picked up on time, particularly on our early release Wednesdays. School dismisses at 3:05 p.m. (2:05 p.m. on Wednesdays). Parents, it is your responsibility to arrange for your child(ren) to be picked up at the designated dismissal times. If you need to change your child's dismissal, you must do so in writing in your child's planner. Only **emergency changes** should be called into the front office, and not to the teacher's classroom.

Sunshine State Book Brag Tag Contest

Our 3rd-5th grade students have been doing an outstanding job reading this year's Sunshine State Books and earning brag tags. Each earned brag tag represents the SSYRA book they read. The brag tag is given to students by an administrator or resource teacher that also enjoyed that same book. We even have many grade 4 and 5 students that have joined our **Books and Bytes Club**, reading outside during their lunch! Keep reading, Hamilton! #Hamiltonreads



SEE something, SAY something

Anonymously report any threatening behavior that endangers you, your friends, your family, your campus, or your community through the Speak Out Hotline. Call 800.423.TIPS or visit speakouthotline.org.



Title I Information

Families and Students, we hope that you are closer to your 60-day SMART goal from APTT #1. Learning gains will be shared at APTT #2 and new activities added to support foundational skills in reading and math. Students in grades 1-5 will be tasked with reviewing their data with you personally through student-led conferences! Grades 3 – 5 will meet on Thursday, January 23 and Grades PreK – 2 on Thursday, January 30. We will kickoff our Black History Month at both evening events. See you then!

Magnet News

Hour of Code! Hamilton is excited to celebrate the Hour of Code! We will join other SCPS schools in a contest to win a coding package for our school. The Hour of Code takes place each year during Computer Science Education Week. This is a unique opportunity to be a part of a global focus on computer science. This year's Hour of Code event will take place during the week of **December 9th - 15th**. Our goal is to "out-code" the competition at all other SCPS schools!

We will have our very own Digital Star Lab operational in December for our 4th and 5th grade students. The Star Lab is an inflatable planetarium that allows students to see space bodies like stars, planets, moons, comets, and more as they discover the wonders of our solar system. This month fourth-graders will see the Earth's moon and its phases up close as they study the relationship between the Earth, moon, and the sun. Fifth-graders will study the rings of Saturn, the red soil of Mars, the orbit of Haley's Comet, and more!

Parent's Corner

PTA—Welcome new treasurer, Ashley McNeil! In November, PTA sponsored an upgrade to the teacher's lounge, making it a peaceful retreat for our teachers. It was very well received! If you haven't joined PTA yet, it's not too late. Dues are \$5.00. We would love to have more families involved! Please come join us for PTA Spirit Night at Texas Roadhouse, date TBA. **For more information, check out Hamilton PTA's Facebook page.**

www.facebook.com/Hamilton-Elementary-PTA



Recent Highlights

Families + Math = Fun!

Thank you to all the families that came out to our first Family Math Night! Parents learned information about math standards and homework-help strategies. Then, families made fun math games together! #mathisnoproblem

Want to see more highlights?

Have you "liked us" on Facebook?

<https://www.facebook.com/hamiltonelem/>

Are you "following us" on Twitter? @hamiltonengtech

Have you checked out our website lately?

www.hamilton.scps.k12.fl.us