

Sebastian Sentinel



Principal's Message

Dear Eagle Families,

As we head into a new year, we continue to focus on our core values as a school. We believe that students deserve an exciting world of inquiry, problem solving and creativity in their learning. This may look slightly different for each student as we encourage them to delve into varied interests and pursue their strengths. In addition to our wonderful STEM program, our visual and performing Arts classes continue to grow and strengthen and we are excited to see our student production of "The Witches Princess" this semester.

Soon, it will be time to select classes for next school year. As you discuss the options with your child remember balance is important. There are a myriad of options available in academics for our students to push themselves in areas of strength. If you have any questions about options, please contact your student's guidance counselor. They have a wealth of information and experience to help guide decisions. Mr. Tagliarini is the counselor for 6th grade and 7th Grade A-L, Ms. Fortune is the counselor for 7th grade M-Z and 8th Grade. They can be reached at Darren.tagliarini@stjohns.k12.fl.us and Leanne.fortune@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Please be sure to read the weekly emails from the school as they will continue to provide important information regarding registering for classes here and at the high schools for our rising 9th graders.

All that remains is for me to wish you, and those you love, a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Kirstie Gabaldon, Principal.

If you aren't on our mailing list, please check out Ms. Gabaldon's weekly updates by clicking on the Principal's Message on the Sebastian Website.



Sebastian Middle School

2955 Lewis Speedway
St. Augustine, FL 32084
904-547-3840

Kirstie Gabaldon
Principal

Jennifer Gamble
Assistant Principal

Kevin Hayes
Dean

Recia Smith
Instructional Literacy Coach

Vision

At Sebastian Middle School, all students will achieve personal success in their learning and become responsible and productive citizens.

Mission

In order to prepare our students to live in and contribute to a changing world, Sebastian will provide a balanced, varied school curriculum designed to meet the academic, cultural and social needs of individuals from the diverse backgrounds of our community.

JANUARY 2022

Volume 6

Issue 1

Sebastian Sentinel

January 2022
Published Four Times Per Year
2955 Lewis Speedway
St. Augustine, FL 32084
Issue 1

*Please watch for our next newsletter in March 2022, and bi-weekly electronic news updates.

Sebastian Middle School Website

The SMS website has up to date information that is important to stay informed about all activities at Sebastian.

It can be found at:
www-sms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/



HAC



Calendar



Payments

Search this website



Media Center

Please see our website for more information on how we will celebrate Literacy week! Or click [here](#).



Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!

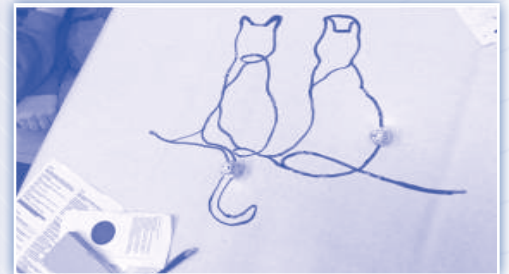
January 24-28, 2022

District: St. Johns

Sebastian Middle School

Ms. Hagy's and Ms. King's 8th grade art classes helped develop the promotional videos for MakerSpace in the Media Center. Students documented how to create several projects. The MakerSpace is open to students during lunch. Students can pick up a pass in the morning and come after they have eaten their lunch. Projects cost between 10- 25 PBIS points.

The Art of Ozobots: Art collaborated again with the Media Center. Ms. Hagy's and Ms. King's first year art students learned about coding and applied what they learned about elements of design with Ozobots. Ozobots are tiny robots that read colors to perform a variety of actions. They are on loan from Instructional Resources and can be borrowed on a monthly basis. Students created collaborative pieces that the Ozobots travelled across.



"We believe that exceptional meals start with exceptional raw materials."

Our Provisions



Meat, Poultry & Seafood



Local Produce & Herbs



Charcuterie & Specialty Grocery

600 Anastasia Boulevard • St. Augustine, FL 32080
 904-907-1312 • chopshopsta.com



DENTAL CARE

New Patients Welcome!

Lynn LaHaise, DDS
 General Dentist

305 Paseo Vereda Dr | St. Augustine, FL 32095

Call Today! 904-385-4517

avilesdentalcare.com



Use our QR code with your mobile device's camera to make your appointment online.

Holiday Concert

In December, we celebrated the season with our Holiday Concert. It was a huge success for both the orchestra and band. To see a clip of the performance, visit our website. <https://www-sms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/music/>



Art Corner

Gingerbread Houses

Thanks to everyone for being so generous and donating all the items we needed to put together our Gingerbread Houses. The students really enjoyed this project! We had more supplies than we needed – so we were able to make a donation to the local food pantry with the leftover items. They were thrilled to receive them - as candy canes, frosting and graham crackers aren't usually what people donate!



continued on page 4



LIFE IS SWEET.
www.marbleslab.com

10% OFF
total purchase
- or -
\$5.00 OFF
a cake

904-461-3536

Homemade Ice Cream, Waffle Cones & Waffle Bowls
Shakes, Sundaes, Sorbets & Ice Cream Cakes Available
Birthday Party Packages • School Spirit Nights

f Marble Slab St. Augustine **@** marbleslabstaugustine

Located in the Publix Shopping Center
1053 A1A Beach Boulevard • St. Augustine, FL 32080



**St Johns Family
Funeral Home & Crematory**
385 SR 207 • St. Augustine, FL 32084

Celebrate Life Unique as the Life Lived.
Life is full of opportunities to show someone we love them. One such opportunity is the funeral or memorial service. Such a loving event celebrates the choices they made, the relationship you shared, and honors the memory of your loved one.

904-824-1625
www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com

**BUILDING, BUYING OR REFINANCING?
THE SUPER-LENDERS ARE HERE TO HELP!**



VISIT WWW.SUPER-LENDERS.COM TO GET STARTED.

Seymoine Schmidt
Branch Manager, NMLS# 327335
Direct: 904-614-0344
SSchmidt@fbchomeloans.com

Laura Baker
Mortgage Loan Originator, NMLS ID# 277147
Direct: 630-417-0592
LBaker@fbchomeloans.com



GO EAGLES!

FBC Mortgage, LLC NMLS ID# 152895, Georgia Residential Mortgage License# 33248, 1750 Tree Blvd Suite 6 St. Augustine, FL 32084, Laura Baker NMLS ID# 277147, OA St. Lic# 69976, www.fbchomeloans.com. All products are subject to credit and property approval. Programs, rates, program terms and conditions subject to change without notice. Not all products are available in all states or for all amounts. Other restrictions and limitations apply.




Auto Accident Attorneys.
824.9402 • www.cananlaw.com

4

National Junior Honor Society

We are so proud of our National Junior Honor Society students who did a great job running a collection for Toys for Tots. These outstanding students showed great character and compassion. Thank you to the NJHS sponsor Ms. Horton. Also thanks to all the parents, students and teachers who contributed to our 3 huge bins of toys!



Art Corner... continued

Best Buddies Program

8th Grader, Lani Rae Decker, along with Ms. King and Ms. Hagy, painted guitars for the District's Best Buddies Program Fundraiser. Our guitar sold for \$100. The Best Buddies Program Mission Statement: Best Buddies International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development, and inclusive living for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).



FREE CONSULTATION



Rob Cook
Attorney at Law, P.A.

Practicing Civil Litigation
and Trial Law
Since 2002



Legal Services:

Auto, Motorcycle,
& Boating Accidents
Slip & Falls • Injury Claims

Office: 904-471-4560 | Fax: 904-471-4561
robcookpa.com

904 Anastasia Boulevard, Suite A.
St. Augustine, FL 32080



Doodlebots
Click on the link
to see this project!
www-sms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/art



At the office of Dr. Rebecca Faunce we encourage you to Smile, With Confidence!

Antigua
Orthodontics
Dr. Rebecca A. Faunce DMD

CALL today for a Complimentary Consultation!

SPARK™ CLEAR ALIGNER SYSTEM
invisalign™
DAMON SMILE More than straight teeth™
DAMON CLEAR

JMJBotoxA

(904) 829-8899 faunceorthodontics.com
201 Health Park Blvd. Ste 216 - St. Augustine

AAC f t

Computer Science

Here's what's happening in SMS Computer Science Classes:

During the second quarter, students in CS Discoveries & ICT 3 have been working on their coding skills using Ozaria.com. They have learned to write a story using the computer language called Python. To set the stage for their story, students first developed a game in chapter 1.

Students practiced problem solving, sequences, loops, syntax, & debugging. At the end of chapter 1, students created an interactive game to demonstrate mastery of algorithms, debugging, objects, methods, and loops.

In chapter 2, students have been working on algorithms, debugging logic errors, variables, & conditionals. Students then use variables and conditionals to build an interactive story with characters and dialogue. Key concepts covered in both chapters:

- Sequences & Algorithms
- Syntax
- Debugging
- Variables
- Boolean Logic
- Conditionals

The following are links to some of the student stories from chapter 2. Please have fun reading their stories.

The Autograph

www.ozaria.com/play/game-dev-level/1upcapstone/61bb823c62afca0024e319e3

Going to Walmart.

www.ozaria.com/play/game-dev-level/1upcapstone/619babd71f76a4002497d22b

I miss our monkey ship.

www.ozaria.com/play/game-dev-level/1upcapstone/61bb81c5bb1ba60026697dee

My parents were kidnapped.

www.ozaria.com/play/game-dev-level/1upcapstone/61b9f3256c867300242079a1

Starting in January, students will be preparing to complete another Capstone Project called "The Phoenix Lands." The goal will be to create an obstacle course that changes based on the player's performance. New concepts to be covered include Data Types, Iteration and Nesting.

As students continue their studies in high school, they will be able to share with their guidance counselors what computer language they have utilized here at Sebastian, and then be able to continue with more advanced computer programming classes. The career opportunities after high school are unlimited in the computer science fields in our St. Augustine community.



SMS Basketball

Congratulations to the boys' and girls' basketball players who made the team. Everyone that tried out worked hard and gave great effort. We also want to welcome our new coaches! Coach Hof is leading the boys' team this season and Coach Robinson in leading the girls' team. We are looking forward to a great season. Please go to the Sebastian website to find our schedule and come out and root for our Sebastian Eagles!

(All tickets must be bought in advance of arriving at the gym.)

Group Rates · Parties · Plan Your Event Here

ANASTASIA MINIATURE GOLF

Est. 1978

\$1 OFF COUPON
Show school ID. 1 per person.

\$50 OFF YOUR BIG EVENT
Book our shaded outdoor deck.

904-825-0101 · AnastasiaMinigolf.com
 701 Anastasia Boulevard • St. Augustine, FL 32080



Crescent Beach CARE

FAMILY PRACTICE & URGENT CARE

- Preventative Care •
- Acute Symptoms •
- Chronic Issues •

Most healthcare plans are accepted.

Visit our qualified team of Family Practice Providers,
Family Doctor/NP/PA, today!

(904) 342-7363

crescentbeachcare.com

6573 A1A South • St. Augustine, FL 32080

tropical SMOOTHIE CAFE

eat better. feel better.

- Order Online
- Delivery
Uber, In-House Delivery
DoorDash
- Breakfast
- Kids Menu
- Vegetarian Friendly
- Wifi



904-461-9090 | tropicalsmoothiecafe.com

112 Seagrove Main St., Suite 114 • St. Augustine, FL 32080

A FORD ABLE Automotive Services, Inc.

Specializing in FORD, LINCOLN, & MERCURY Vehicles
Master Certified by Ford Motor Co. & A.S.E.

**We Service All Makes and Models
Tire Sales & Service**

904-808-7003

1465 Old Moultrie Rd. • St. Augustine, FL 32084
Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 5:30pm

New Teachers



6th Grade Science - Mr. Alex Kassay

I grew up in St. James, NY. During those years, I was very involved in music as a trumpet player and singer. After attending three years of college as a music major, I made a change and pursued a degree in education. After college, I moved to Maryland where I taught elementary and middle school for 15 years. Taking a break from teaching, we moved to West Virginia and I worked as an electrician in some steel mills. After twelve years, I decided it was time to get back to what I truly enjoyed doing. So, the Kassays hit the reset button, moved to St. Augustine and I took a teaching position in a 5th grade classroom in Duval County. This position eventually let me to Sebastian Middle School where I am currently teaching 6th grade science.

When not teaching, I like to spend my time being a husband and a father of three sons, ages 17, 15, and 14. I also love playing with my dog, Gidget, and spending time outside when the weather isn't too hot. While still being involved in music, today's sounds mostly come from my bluegrass banjo (that I am just learning to play).



Math Support - Ms. Amanda Barnes

My husband, two daughter, two cats, our dog and I made Florida our home in 2020. Before settling down in Florida, we lived in seven states as my husband's job moved us all over the country. I love to travel and I have been to 36 states so far, my goal is to make it to all fifty states.

The state I have spent the most time in is Illinois. I grew up in a small farm town in Illinois. Every year we celebrate Illinois' largest crop, corn, during Corn Festival. It is my favorite time to visit my home town because the entire area shuts down for this event. It is always a good time with great food!

I stayed in Illinois and went to college in Chicago where I studied Psychology then went on to complete my Masters in Clinical Mental Health Psychology. I love the way our minds work. That is one of the reasons I love teaching. I am passionate about viewing each student as a unique individual and therefore really getting to know them. I love helping students flourish by giving them tools to feel their best and helping them discover their learning style. I look forward to continuing to learn and grow alongside our students.



7th Grade Science - Mr. Connor Kuppe

I am originally from Venice, FL – a small town south of Sarasota. I attended college at the University of South Florida where I achieved my Bachelor of Science in Biology. My family consists of my partner Anne Marie and our six-year-old Alaskan Malamute, Kuma.

My hobbies include hiking, kayaking, reading, and rock climbing. I enjoy teaching as it allows me to share my love of science, and the natural world, with others.



 **Diane's**
Natural Market
...where good health comes naturally

904-808-9978
dianesnaturalmarket.com

841 S. Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Unit #6
St. Augustine, FL 32084

NEXT LEVEL
FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC

Taking Health To A New Level

Our Services:

Chiropractic Adjustments for Pregnant Women,
Babies, Children, Teens, and Adults
Gaston Technique · Corrective Exercises · Muscle Testing
SFMA/FMS (Functional Movement Screenings)

3100 US-1 S., Ste. 4A
St. Augustine, FL 32086

904-429-7019
nextlevelfamilychiro.com

Flowers by
Shirley

2200 US 1 South

824-8163

www.flowersbyshirley.com
E-mail: flowers@aug.com

8th Grade Students!!!

Applying to a Program of Choice

Eligible students may apply to a program of choice during the application window which opens **January 6, 2022** and closes **February 10, 2022 at 5pm**. For more information, view a schedule of other important Program of Choice dates.

Programs of Choice include High School Career Academies, JROTC, AICE/IB programs, Early College Program, the St. Johns County Center for the Arts at St. Augustine High School, and the St. Johns County Center for the Arts at Murray Middle School.

Please note: Students applying to AICE/IB programs must also submit teacher recommendations and qualify based on their academic performance.

Also note: Students applying to the St. Johns County Center for the Arts at St. Augustine High School or at Murray Middle School must also audition at the respective schools on February 7, 2022.

- [St. Johns County Center for the Arts at R. J. Murray Middle School Audition Information](#)
- [St. Johns County Center for the Arts at St. Augustine High School Audition Information](#)

Watch each high school's video at: <https://cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us/academies/>

School Nurse – IMPORTANT

Due to the recent "Parents' Bill of Rights", F. S. 1014.06 – Parental Consent for Health Care Services, parents must give written consent in order for their child to access health care while at school. This consent will allow the school nurse to provide care and treatment to your child for injuries and illnesses, and when necessary, emergency health services performed until Emergency Medical Services arrive on campus. Should you decline consent for these services, you will be notified any time your student has such a need, and you will be responsible for arrangement of care outside of the school setting. This consent will remain in effect until your child transfers to another school district, graduates, or you indicate in writing that you wish to rescind this consent for school health services.



you wish to rescind this consent for school health services.

Please visit [this survey](#) to give permission for your child to receive school health services. **This information must be completed by January 18, 2022.**

For more information, please call the Health Services Department at (904) 547-7693 or visit <https://www-sms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/medical-corner>.

PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE SMS EAGLES

St. Augustine's freshest spot for great steaks and fresh local seafood!

904-547-2723 • theblackmollygrill.com
504 W. Geoffrey Street • St. Augustine, FL 32086

BURNEY'S SEPTIC TANK SERVICE INC.

Keep on Flushin'

Free Estimates | Round-The-Clock Service | One-Year Workmanship Warranty

- Septic System Installations
- Grease Trap Services
- Septic Services & Repairs
- Excavation and Hauling

904-829-2953
www.burneysseptic.com

Septic Tank Contracting #SA0890197 Lic #CUC056991

FROM FIRST BITE TO LAST CALL™

904-825-4540
dickswingsandgrill.com

965 State Road 16 • St. Augustine, FL 32084

HARBOUR DENTAL CARE

- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Oral Surgery
- Dental Sedation
- Prosthetics
- General Dentistry
- Root Canals
- Invisalign®
- Sleep Apnea Therapy

904-587-4575
harbourdental.care/st-augustine

75 San Marco Avenue • St. Augustine, FL 32084

www.RaintreeRestaurant.com

102 San Marco Ave.
St. Augustine, FL
904.824.7211

CASUAL DINING · HISTORIC LOCATION

Ayla's Acres

10% OFF purchase at our Thriftique
Expires 3/24/2022.

Ayla's Acres Thriftique
413 Anastasia Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32080

904-484-8792
aylasacres.org

NO-KILL ANIMAL RESCUE
Aid. Adopt. Advocate.

Sebastian Sentinel



Sebastian Middle School

2955 Lewis Speedway
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 2346
Orlando, FL

PTO Corner

Sebastian Middle School's PTO has been working hard to provide our students and faculty with what they need to be successful this year- and to have fun! You don't need to be a stay at home parent to become involved - reach out to PTOSebastian@gmail.com if you'd like to be a part of what we do behind the scenes at Sebastian!

We could not do any of it without our amazing business partners, who have stepped up during these challenging times to take care of us. When you are looking for a business in these fields, go to one of our partners and let them know that we sent you:

Food: Zaxby's, Chick-Fil-A, Marble Slab, Carnival Sweets, Tropical Smoothie, and Farmhand Kchn

Dentist: Gordon Dental

Orthodontist: Smiles by Glenos and Hadgis, and Faunce Orthodontics

Podiatrist: Coastal Foot and Ankle

Business Technology Consulting: JetConInc.

Business Marketing and Consulting: McGraw Now

Public Relations for Businesses, Nonprofits, & Individuals: Old City PR

Custom Home Builders: BEHST Builders

Caregiving Services: Compassionate Concierge

Here are some easy ways to support Sebastian!

1. Amazon Smile offers the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon, in addition to donating .5% of sales to the charitable organization of your choice! Go to Amazon Smile in your Amazon app and select "Sebastian Middle School PTO, Inc." or, go to smile.amazon.com and choose us.

2. Treat yourself on Mondays at Carnival Sweets- tell them you're with Sebastian, and they will make a donation to support us!
3. Visit https://sebastian-middle-school-pto-store_cheddarup.com to shop for Spirit Wear, become a Business Partner, or check out our current fundraiser.
4. We send out regular email updates with all the good stuff, but you can also follow us on Instagram @SMSPTO or on FB @ SebastianPTO

Yearbook Ads

Do you have an eighth grader that you'd like to commemorate and celebrate in this year's yearbook? We have great news! We're offering personalized advertisements via Pictavo with options for full page, half page, quarter page, and eighth page size ads. All advertisements will be designed via the online pictavo program by you, so you can use the pictures you like and write as much or as little as you want.

Go online to https://buytheyearbook_pictavo.com/PictavoSchool/FindSchool and input the information for Sebastian! Here you can order your yearbook online and buy your 8th grade ad.

If you want to contribute to the yearbook by uploading your pictures, please see the information [here](#).



8