

LPA NEWS

NEWSLETTER | Volume 2 February 2024

LIBERTY PINES ACADEMY

Hello LPA Families!

This past month, our students were challenged with acts of kindness. Those acts included perform a random act of kindness, doing a chore at home without being prompted, and writing thank you notes to our school counselors, teachers, and their parents. Hopefully you were able to witness your child completing some of these challenges. Our elementary students also had their class pictures taken, Student Council sponsored the Valentine's Gram sales, our Math Counts team competed in their competition, our Science Olympiad team brought home two silver medals and two gold medals when they competed in Daytona, many elementary field trips took place, our 8th grade students registered for their high school classes, our basketball teams continued to compete this month, and we ended the month with the PTO Penny Wars fundraiser. Stay tuned next month for the winner!

As we close in on the end of the third quarter, our middle school Battle of the Books team will compete, our basketball teams will compete in their playoffs, our middle school band will perform at their MPA, and the elementary Character Cup will take place. We will also continue to support our students to finish strong with the final push this week. The last day of this quarter is Friday, March 8. The fourth quarter will begin Tuesday, March 19. When we return from the break, our elementary and middle school Battle of the Books teams will compete, our elementary students will experience their field day, and more.

I want to take a moment to thank all families for their continued support of our students, teachers, staff, and school. It is truly an honor to proudly serve our school and community as your principal.

Gratefully together,

Donny Hoessler,
your proud LPA Principal

The LPA Way



L: Learning is our focus
P: Positive relationships are what we value
A: Always respectful and responsible



Nora DeBari and Juliette Byrus from Mrs. J Veale's class, came up to present Mr. Hoessler with some Valentines.

MARCH



Mark your calendars for the events below:

- March 1: Kindergarten registration begins
- March 8: Last day the 3rd quarter
- March 11-March 15: No School – Spring Break
- March 19: First day of 4th quarter
- March 19: SAC Meeting at 4:00pm
- March 21: PTO Meeting
- March 22: Report Cards issued
- March 29: No School – Good Friday

PENNY WARS LEADERBOARD	
Friday March 1st	
1st Place- 2nd Grade:	200,507
2nd Place- 8th Grade:	122,432
3rd Place- 1st Grade:	19,934
4th Place- 6th Grade:	4,352
5th Place- Kindergarten:	3,053
6th Place- 3rd Grade:	2,651
7th Place- 4th Grade:	2,508
8th Place- 7th Grade:	3,191
9th Place- 5th Grade:	5,138

Congratulations to the 2nd grade for winning the Penny Wars Competition!

They will receive a special treat from the PTO in the next few weeks.





Thanks to the artistic talents of Mrs. Scoggins and the brilliant efforts of our school counselors, LPA continues to celebrate their Kindness Initiative with this beautiful hallway poster honoring those in our LPA family who were recognized for showing kindness.

Frozen Cast Warming Up

By: Reagan Heller

For the “first time in (almost) forever” we are having a brother and sister duo in our play! This



year, in “Frozen”, the duo consists of Ty Hayes, an eighth grader, and Courtney Hayes, a fifth grader. Courtney describes the experience as “Interesting, because normally only middle schoolers can do the play, but this year two fifth graders were in!” Ty prefers to use the term “Fun, because [he] can hang out with [his] sister and [his] friends!”

The production of “Frozen” is coming along nicely, and our very own Elsa can’t wait for it to continue. Ali Stafford (Elsa) believes this year’s production to be the best one yet! From amazing actors to spectacular special effects. “Frozen” seems to be warming up to be a very special event that you won’t want to miss.

Moonlight Howlers Howl the Night Away!

By: Paige Carlson and Gia Rodriguez-Millan

This past weekend, on February 21st, ten of our very own Moonlight howlers performed at St. Augustine High School. These ten Moonlight howlers were chosen by a lottery system and were asked if they wanted to perform. Our little Wolves sang a variety of songs from Broadway to a song of West African descent. This was the first time our district held this kind of event. Many of our participants were excited but became nervous when they saw everyone in the audience including school board members, principals, and vice principals from various schools across the county. Kiera Dhima said, “I felt more excited but nervous when I saw all those people lined up.” We are so proud of our Moonlight Howlers and congratulate them on this great achievement!

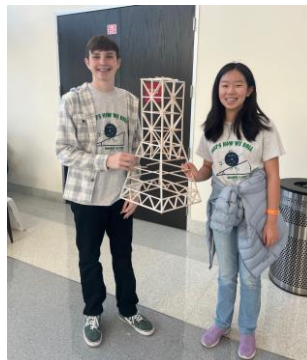


Science Olympiad

By: Ava Turner

This seasons Science Olympiad was a huge hit! 15 of LPA’s most intelligent and dedicated academicians competed on February 24th at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. There were more than thirty events in all fields of science from forestry to forensics. 7 out of 15 students placed on the podium in their events! Ava Turner and Reagan Heller won second in Anatomy and Physiology, Harrison Warren and Phineas Barnhart placed second in Optics, Aarjav Patel and Harrison Warren placed first in Experimental design, and Saran Nimmagadda and Andi Li placed first in Dynamic Planets. A huge congratulations to all students who participated we can’t wait for next year!

Science Olympiad is an enriching and challenging club which gives students the opportunity to explore a multitude of science fields in a more in-depth way that everyday class simply can’t provide. It’s also incredibly collaborative as students work in pairs. “It was super exciting meeting other kids that were interested in the same subjects as me!” says Cayden Buck. Science Olympiad offers a myriad of events so that any student can find what their interested in. “I was never really into just studying. So, when I found out they had experimental design I was super excited! It gave me the opportunity to be creative and think on my feet!” says Harrison Warren. Science Olympiad is a club for everyone, and it will continue to take on new competitors next season.



WHAT ELSE IS NEW ...

Character Counts awards

By: Juliette Sweet

Outstanding job to all our representatives of caring for the month of February! Our stage this month is decorated in a Mario Kart theme for the penny wars, so our nominees got to see all the props and pictures up close. Per usual our ceremonies were filled with claps and cheers from everyone for their peers. Here are some characteristics of our outstanding representatives of caring this month.

- I am kind to others.
- I am compassionate and show care
- I express gratitude
- I help others in need
- I forgive others

Eagle Scout Graduate: Bryson Roberts

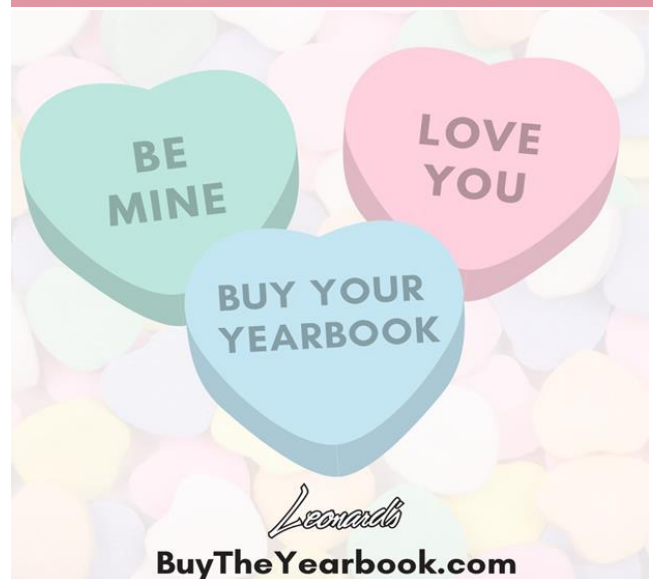
By Gabe Chapman and Ty Hayes

Eagle scout is the highest rank a Boy Scout can achieve. It is long a tough road to reach that rank. Earlier this week Bryson Roberts, an 8th grader here at LPA got his Eagle Scout ranking. When we interviewed him, he said he feels great that he finally got his Eagle Scout and that there are many benefits. He said that some of them were that it looks good on your resume and there are many potential scholarships. Bryson's favorite campout was summer camp in Georgia; his favorite merit badge was Wilderness Survival, because he likes camping in the woods. When asked if he would encourage others to join Boy Scouts and work to be an Eagle Scout he said "yes!" Bryson stated that doing Boy Scouts helps you gain very important skills and experiences.

LPA Band News



Congratulations to our LPA Band members who were selected to perform in the county Honor Band. Also, Symphonic band! Save the date. MPA will be held at Beachside High School on March 6th, performing at 4pm.



- Be sure to order your yearbook while supplies last!!! Orders will be taken until April 30th or until supplies last. If you are not sure if you have ordered, log into your account at buytheyearbook.com to check your purchase record.





Teacher Spotlight

By Jamila Jones

Mr. Deagle is a 5th year sixth-grade world history teacher here at LPA! Out in the portables, he teaches with a touch of comedy and references that brighten the thought of learning history. By making connections with celebrities, authors, and actors, he helps convey learning in a way that is unique and quite powerful!



Mr. Deagle is originally from southern Florida and came up to northern FL to go to Flagler College. After he completed Flagler, he went up to Boston to earn his master's degree. Before becoming the great teacher he is today, he worked for 10 years as a tour guide for the Freedom Trail in Boston and came to downtown St. Augustine as a tour guide. Soon enough, he became a wonderful world history teacher here at LPA!

In the entirety of the course of world history, he feels that he has "the most fun" with Egypt. He explained that ancient Egypt achievements and beliefs are unique compared to other civilizations. During class he expresses historical figures in some ways as characters, each with their own purposes in history.

Outside of teaching, he loves coffee, cheese, and cooking. He explains that cooking is a passion of his because of the variety of recipes, tastes and combinations. He also loves watching Star Wars and making connections with history and the famous film franchise.

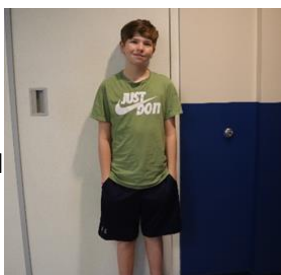
Student Spotlight

By: Mary Catherine Adams and Abbi Cooper

This week's student spotlight is 6th grade student Hayden Bone. Hayden is in Mr. Deagle Homeroom. Her favorite thing about school is seeing her friends every day. Hayden's favorite class she takes is band with Mr. Spilling; she plays the saxophone and loves it, and she loves how to learn how to play it better.



Her favorite thing she has done this year is the band concert. The band concert was held at Beachside High School where she got to play her saxophone. Along with band she also loves ELA because she loves to read. Outside of school she loves to hang out with her friends, draw, and practice her instrument. Hayden is enjoying 6th grade and looking forward to 7th grade.



This month's 2nd student spotlight is Jacob Perrin. Jacob is twelve years old and lives with his mom, dad, two brothers and five dogs. He plays basketball as a sport and loves playing it in his free time. His favorite part of the day is when he gets home. He also likes to hang out with his friends when he doesn't have sports. It also makes him happy when he's around people he knows.

At school Jacob's homeroom teacher is Mrs. Small. His favorite class of the day is ELA with Mrs. Strillchuck who is his favorite teacher. His favorite book is the first Percy Jackson book out of the series. Jacob is enjoying sixth grade but can't wait till summer.

Staff Spotlight: Ms. Campbell

By. Chloe Chang

Ms. Campbell has been here for 3 years and is our Guidance Clerk here at LPA. When she was asked "What's the easiest and hardest thing about your job?" she responded with "The easiest thing is the students and getting to know them while the hardest thing is managing everyone and dividing my time to help everyone." Not only is she our Guidance Clerk, but she has so many other jobs. Ms. Campbell helps with ISS, computers, front desk, and so much more. She loves to work with all grades but more specifically she has more of an impact on younger grades and with middle school she can relate more to them.

Ms. Campbell has been in the education for 15 years. She helps students by supporting, mentoring, and helping them in their day-to-day life. Ms. Campbell decided to work in education, so she knows what's going on because she has grandkids. She has two grandkids in 1st and 3rd grade that go to LPA. Ms. Campbell loves both dogs and cats and she was a volleyball coach in the past. Ms. Campbell's number one goal is to change a life and have a good impact on others. We're so grateful that she is a part of our LPA Wolf Pack, and we wouldn't have it any other way!

History Reflection

By Sebastian Robinson

On March 1st, 1961, President Kennedy established an organization called the Peace Corps. It was established through an executive order to involve Americans and other nations in a struggle against poverty, illiteracy and disease. It was created in order to combat the Soviet Union with their progress in fields of science and engineering, as Kennedy did not want the United States to fall behind.

Some of the first nations to join the United States in their global mission for freedom and innovation were Tanzania and Ghana. When they had joined, Kennedy had personally met the volunteers going to Africa before their departure, wishing them farewell. Throughout the 1960s, the Peace Corps was very popular with many Americans and College graduates. However, unfortunately, funding was cut in the 1970s as America's faith in their institutions had dropped because of events like Watergate and the Vietnam War.

Towards the 1980s and 1990s, the program was revived with an increase in funding as President Reagan had decided to fund the program while there was a concern with education and illiteracy in the United States and abroad. For the first time since the 1960s, volunteers were coming in from across the United States and travelling to newly integrated regions like Europe to combat poverty and disease.



Teacher Spotlight

By: Olivia Detlefs
and Lakshmi O'Connor



Mrs. Lamb is one of our amazing 3rd grade teachers here at LPA. This is her 6th year at LPA, but she has been teaching for 27 years. Before teaching she was a corporate trainer at Ford motor company in Michigan.

Her inspiration for becoming a teacher was her passion of seeing kids understand. "I love seeing the kids click and understand what I am teaching." She strives to have all her students feel the "click" so that they will have amazing FAST testing scores.

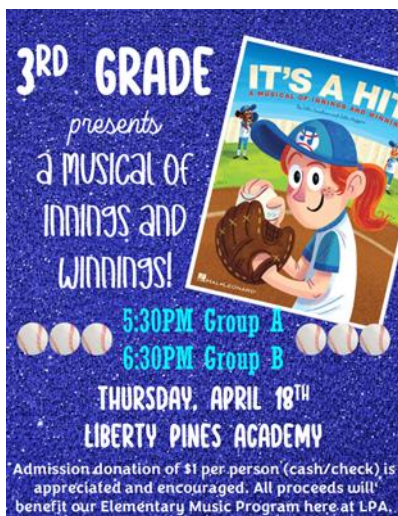
One thing she is excited about is her retirement in 3 years. She will be sad to leave LPA but is excited to open a new chapter of her life, although she doesn't have any specific plans yet.

Mrs. Lamb loves teaching math, but her favorite subject is Social Studies because she finds government, economics and current affairs interesting and loves to discuss them.

"My favorite school memory was in my childhood. It was getting to meet the Florida senator at my high school graduation!" She loves all of her students and the LPA family.



NEWS FROM THE ART WORLD – UPCOMING EVENTS



SPORTS NEWS!!!

LPA Basketball

By Sam Willis

The basketball season is coming to an end with playoffs right around the corner. The first playoff game is on March 5th, if we continue the second game is on March 6th, and finally the championship game on March 7th. The girl's team had an amazing year that was very victorious. The girls are a good team and are looking to win the championship. On the other hand, the boy's team has had a rough and disappointing season that has taught them a lot about discipline and good team skills. They are looking to make a dark horse run in the playoffs and end the season on a positive note. Go Wolves!



Softball

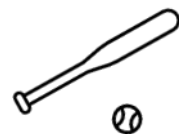
By: Lakshmi O'Connor

We are excited to say that the softball season officially started. The season is going very well with a great group of girls on the team. They started off the season strong with a win against freedom 8-5, they were up the whole time.



This year the team captains are Caitlyn Boshell and Lily Jurgens. Something unique about these captains is that they have been on the team since 5th grade. Some of the goals they have for the team this year are to be leaders as captains and help the team bring home another ring. They are really enjoying the season because they love playing softball and it is not as competitive so there is not so much pressure on them; they can have fun. Something they both look forward to is 8th grade night. Also, some things that they are hoping to improve on are pitching and base running. This team is very excited to play this season and bring home some more victories. Let's cheer them on and come out and support our Wolves.

Baseball



By: Layla Doyle

The baseball team just started practices and their first game is March 21st. A few goals for the team are to win most of their games and hopefully to make it to the championships. Although their practices have just started, the team has lots of potential. They are very excited for the season to start and can't wait to play in games. All the players really enjoy playing the sport and are excited to grow in baseball. This year's team is combination of players from both LPA and POA.

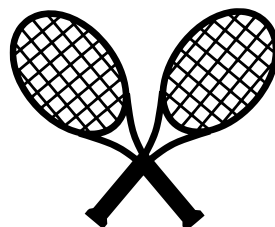
Congratulations to our students who are playing on the tennis team this year. Hope you have a great season!

JV LPA tennis

Addison Fricke
Audrey Fricke
Aika (Isabelle) Matsuda
Sreehas Kumireddy
Alice Poynton
Emma Rutland
Lucy Collins
Samiha's Shaik

Varsity

Ellie Thorpe
Daniel Bray
Kennedy Bunnell
Kaitlyn Hall
Lu Crews
Ahan Renukanda
Ethan Bedi
Krista Varghese
Sophia, Valentina and Luca Fortini



April 2024



LPA PM3 Testing Calendar

April 1st - 12th Writing 4th-8th

April 15th - 30th STAR K-2nd

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Congratulations to the following students who took and passed the Word Processing Essential Certification Exam in Mrs. Grubbs' ICT 1 class.

Alexander, Stella	Heavener, Elena
Anwar, Sadit	Howard, Justin
Blood, Barrett	Kumbamu, Akshara
Bragg, Molly	Lika, Arvin
Chaparro, Melina	Lisena, Raina
Christiansen, Ashlynn	Lohkamp, Avery
Cruz-Sobalvarro, Luca	Long, Aubrey
Davenport, Alexander	Madaleno, Logan
Detura, Madison	Madelly, Adelaide
Doane, Delaney	McFadzean, Hannah
Edwards, Isabella	Narumanchi, Yashas
Farnstrom, Luciana	Olenio Canedo Da Costa, Gianna
Fortener, Rhett	Poynton, Alice
Glover, Michael	Rapolla, Emily
Grove, Vanessa	Veniard, Amelia

Congratulations to the following students who took and passed the Programming and Logic Certification Exam in Mrs. Grubbs' Computer Science Discovery (CSD) classes.

Barnhart, Phineas	Poole, Killian	Gerardo, Anthony
Boustanjji, Louay	Poynton, Benjamin	Gonzalez, Alexander
Capling, Christian	Rao, Eeshaan	Irvin, Ethan
Carlisle, Luke	Rodriguez, Konnor	Jurgens, Lily
Carlyon, Jackson	Samaluru, Nikshaep	Lewis, Aaron
Chapman, Gabriel	Sharpe, Nicholas	Macomber, Addyson
Cook, Michael	Torres, Angelica	Madriz, Fabian
Cooper, Abbi	Villalobos, Nyryn	Mailly, Evan
Corson, Haley	Willis, Samuel	Munteanu, Nicolae
Crooks, Karis	Windness, Erik	Murphy, Zakery
Davenport, Clark	Wong, Dylan	Nabers, Sofia
Duncan, Nolan	Zheng, Xian	Neelkant, Ribhu
Fleming, Braxton	Atmaca, Tuna	Pallam, Sachit
Grass, Everett	Baldwin, Colton	Patel, Aarjav
Gray, Sebastian	Bray, Daniel	Prasath, Surya
Howell, Everett	Broussard, Noah	Roberts, Bryson
James, Marleigh	Bryant, Renton	Rodas, Emanuel
Jones, Mattox	Campbell, Abigail	Rutland, William
Latorre, Alyssa	Detlefs, Olivia	Scarlett, Dylan
Lettre, Aneceya	DeVito, Henry	Troche, Christopher
Marvell, Blake	Dobrovolny, Andrew	Turner, Ava
Montford, Wyatt	Doyle, Layla	Turner, Ayanna
Noto, Ty	Elefante, Isabella	Valentine, Kurt
Palmer, Hayes	Flores, Leila	Woody, William

Congratulations to Mr. Roach's students who completed their Word Processing Essentials Certification!!!

Allman, Nash
 Bolton, Abigail
 Casterline, Avery
 Clark, Eli
 Clark, Wyatt
 Coppola, Brielle
 Curry, Akacia
 Dice, Miracle
 Doligosa, Philip Jase
 Griffin, Lucas
 Herbert, Jonah
 Langhorne Holch, Ethan
 Lei, Alyssa
 Lutze, Kashton
 Maas, Nora
 Madadi, Abhilash
 Malik, Platon
 Mueller, Ross
 Pappas, Emmitt
 Ratliff, Reddin
 Rivera, Dior
 Robinson, Sophia
 Rojas, Jadan
 Rossi, Luca
 Rutland, Emma
 Simmons, Amaya
 Tejada, Ethan
 Tillman, Blake
 Tirumalasetti, Arjun
 Tomas, Aaron
 Vigil, Selinas
 White, Madison
 Zimmerman, Owen

K-5 LPA MUSIC FUNDRAISER

Mrs. Snyder will be selling music themed bracelets for \$1.00 in the morning between 8:20am-8:40am during the following dates:

Friday, March 1st
 Thursday, March 7th
 Friday, March 8th
 Thursday, March 21st
 Friday, March 22nd



Look for her in the hallway with her table set up to purchase! All proceeds will go to our K-5 music program for classroom supplies and new instruments.

Thank you for your support! ☺☺☺



Registration will remain open until spaces are filled.

Classes will fill up quickly – First come first served!

*****Note:*** Students must be registered as a student at LPA prior to submitting Extended Day Registration



SAVE THE DATE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10



Spring Fling
Surf's Up!

PTO NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

Hello LPA Families! If you haven't joined the PTO yet, you can sign up on LPAPTO.COM or in person at the PTO meeting. If you have any questions, contact Abigail Lake at .

Our next meeting is on Thursday, March 21st at 9am in the cafeteria. You must be an approved volunteer to attend the meeting. You can register [Volunteer Services – St. Johns County School District \(stjohns.k12.fl.us\)](http://Volunteer Services – St. Johns County School District (stjohns.k12.fl.us)) Please sign in at the front office and walk outside to the side door of the cafeteria for the meeting. Please see the Liberty Pines Academy PTO Facebook page for updates!

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Mary Lea Walston for being nominated volunteer of the month –she brings such positive energy and was very helpful in the Souperbowl event.

Know a person who goes above and beyond at LPA? The PTO wants to hear about them. They can be a student, teacher/staff member or a family member. Please email your nomination, telling us why you chose them, to eadenora@gmail.com (please put volunteer in the subject line). The voting will take place every month. If students would like to vote, please have them submit it to their teacher and they can drop it in the box located in the mailroom.

FUNDRAISERS

Our annual “*Souperbowl*” was a success! LPA teachers and staff loved the variety of the soup that was made and served with love! Thank you to all the parent volunteers. Watch out for the Penny Wars (Super Mario themed!) coming up.

WHAT'S NEW?

We have recently purchased refrigerator and a snack shelf in the teacher's lounge. We would love it if some families could please help us keep it stocked for the hardworking LPA staff. There is a sign up genius link on the Liberty Pines Academy PTO Facebook page. Please feel free to contact secretary@lpapto.com for more information!

STAY CONNECTED

In addition to our website at lpapto.com, check out our Liberty Pines Academy PTO Facebook page to learn about upcoming events and stay current with happenings at LPA.

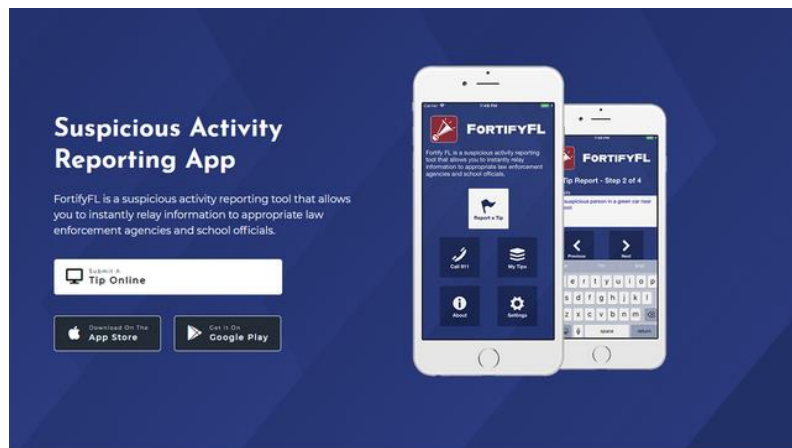
UPCOMING DATES

2/26 to 3/1- Penny Wars

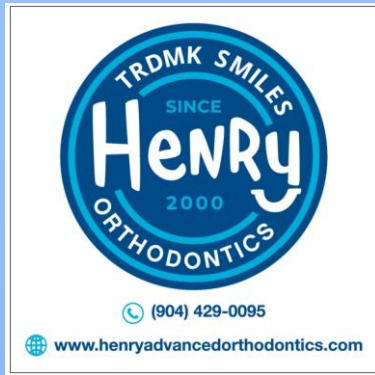
3/21 – PTO Meeting



Fortify FL FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows students or parents to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. By accessing FortifyFL at <https://getfortifyfl.com> or <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/blog/fortifyfl-app/>, individuals can provide a description of the threat, share pics and videos and optionally submit their contact information. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. The Office of Attorney General, Department of Education and Florida Department of Law Enforcement coordinated its development and rollout.



PLATINUM WOLF SPONSORS - \$2000 Donation



GOLDEN WOLF SPONSORS - \$1000 Donation

