

Sebastian River Times



Dear Parents/Guardians/Friends,

I am very proud of what our school and student body have accomplished this year at Sebastian River. Over the years we have established a tradition of excellence. Our faculty and staff does an exceptional job with their primary responsibility—teaching. However, what really sets this group apart is that they do so many other things with such great skill. Our teachers counsel and support your children. They sponsor and coach. They chaperone and supervise. They lead and guide. They give countless hours outside the normal teaching day to enrich the middle school experience.

SRMS teachers and staff are dedicated to your child's success. I know many of you appreciate the teachers' efforts on behalf of your child. Please take time during **Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, May 6-10**, to show your appreciation. A simple thank-you note during the week will mean a great deal to our superb teachers. Our PTSA has planned a fantastic week to honor all our educators during the week. Please contact PTSA President, Ms. Channon Quinn at channon.quinn@gmail.com or Mrs. Giordano at patricia.giordano@indianriverschools.org if you are interested in volunteering during Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week.

By the time you receive this newsletter we will have already completed the Writing portion of the FSA exam. Testing continues in May with FSA Reading, Math, 8th grade Science and EOCs (End of Course) Exams in Civics, Algebra 1 and Geometry. As a reminder, EOC scores are part of the student's overall grade for the course.

To practice safety at school we will be conducting an Active Shooter Drill in April and May. Teachers review the procedures with their students regularly to insure our students can react appropriately during the drill in the event it was ever a reality.

Finally, I'd like to congratulate our Spring sports teams for representing our school on the field in Baseball, Softball, Girls Lacrosse and Boys Lacrosse. The teams all had great seasons and are looking forward to competing in the district tournament. We have many extracurricular activities in the months of April and May. Please check our website under "Events" to see the monthly school calendar.

Sincerely,
Mr. Racine



Sebastian River Middle School
9400 CR 512
Sebastian, FL 32958

Main Phone:

**772-564-5111 (Answered 7:30
am - 3:15 pm)**

www.indianriverschool.org/srms

ADMINISTRATION



Todd Racine,
Principal

Jackie Contri,
Assistant Principal

James Thimmer,
Assistant Principal

Guidance,
772-564-5122

Attendance,
772-564-5123

April Newsletter
Volume 2, Issue 7



Look for the hidden
carrot!





FORTIFY APP



We are pleased to announce that the FortifyFL app is LIVE. Now, any student, educator, parent or member of the public can report school safety concerns directly to law enforcement and school administrators anonymously and easily through the FortifyFL app or www.getfortifyfl.com. The app, which is available for download on Apple and Android mobile devices, is critical to ensuring all Florida schools are safe environments where students and educators can experience and share the joy of learning without fear. We hope that you will become familiar with this tool and help us spread the word about it with our students and their families. Please note that the official app's logo will look exactly as it does in the graphic above.

PTSA News

SRMS Final PTSA General Meeting of the 2019 school year will be held in the cafeteria on Thursday May 2nd at 6:15 P:M, immediately after Board Elections for 2019-2020 school year will be held. Interested with helping our school by being part of the PTSA? Come to the meeting or contact Patty Giordano at patricia.giordano@indianriverschools.org for more information.

PTSA will be selling Wooden Roses in the cafeteria during lunches from May 8-10. Each rose is \$1.00

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Donations are needed in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week which begins May 6th. For every donation you will receive one hour of volunteer time. Now is the time to show off your culinary expertise by donating yummy desserts for our amazing staff (cupcakes, cookies, brownies, cakes etc.). In addition cases of water, bottles of iced tea & lemonade are greatly appreciated. All items can be dropped off at the main office between 7:30-3:00. All perishable donations please drop off on Monday May 6. Questions? Call 564-5199

FSA Testing Dates

April 2nd - FSA Writing (all grades)

May 1st and 2nd - FSA Reading (all grades)

May 6th and 7th - FSA Math

May 6th and 7th - Algebra 1 EOC

May 6th and 7th - Geometry EOC

May 9th- Civics (7th Grade Only)

May 9th- Science FCAT (8th Grade Only)

You Can Do This! TEST-TAKING TIPS

REST zzz
nom nom **EAT BREAKFAST**

PREPARE Know the facts

FOLLOW ALL DIRECTIONS Use a No. 2 Pencil

If you don't know an answer **SKIP IT** come back to it at the end

STEADY PACE BE NEAT not too FAST or too SLOW

CHECK YOUR WORK

RELAX do as well as you can!

Band News

-Busch gardens/USF trip will be on April 13th!

-May 2nd is the Beginning Band spring concert; the Jazz Band and the Beginning will be performing at 7pm in the SRMS gym.

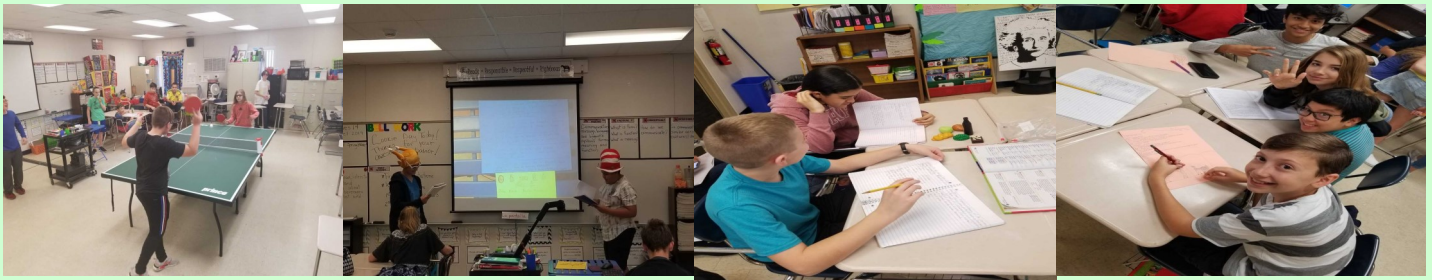
-May 7th is the percussion concert at SRHS.

-May 9th is the spring concert with the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band and Jazz Band will be performing at 6:30 in the SRHS auditorium.

-May 10th is when all students must returned their school instruments from 7:30-6pm.

-May 17th from 7:30am-3:30pm is school instrument check out for summer. Students that would like to practice over summer can come and rent out a school instrument over summer!!

Mrs. Pagan's Class



Mrs. Pagan's Spanish class is learning to write and speak about lunch and breakfast. First students selected their ingredients, each group created a skit (in Spanish!) using the new vocabulary along with the vocabulary from other units, last each group presented to the class (in Spanish of course!). Additionally, Mrs. Pagan started a table tennis club for 7th graders check out the cool pics!

By: Camila M.

Sports Banquet

At the Sports Banquet, coaches and members of sports get together and celebrate their accomplishments that the teams have done. Congratulations to all, here are some pictures from the Sports Banquet.



Important Announcements



8th Grade Dance Info!

The 8th grade dance is quickly approaching! The masquerade-themed dance is Friday, April 26th from 7:00-9:00pm in the MPR. Dress is semi-formal. Tickets are \$10 and will be sold the week of April 8th during lunches. Tickets will NOT be sold at the door.

Gradventure Announcement

There are 10 spots available for Gradventure! If you have been thinking about going but haven't paid yet, now is your chance!! Don't miss out on the fun- see Mrs. Walker ASAP.

The final payment for Gradventure is due Monday, April 5th!!

Pool Field Trip Information

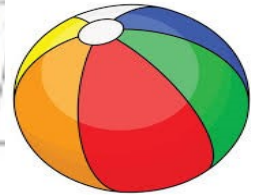


-Monday, May 20th is the 8th grade Celebration/Pool Party. The celebration will be taking place in the cafeteria and parents are welcome to attend, we will walk to the pool afterwards.

-Monday, May 13th is the 6th grade Pool Party.

-Thursday, May 16th is the 7th grade Pool Party.

-**8th Grade tickets** for the pool party will be \$8 (this includes pool entry, pizza, and a drink) and sold the week of May 6th during lunches. 6th & 7th listen to announcements for your ticket sales.



Spring Drama Production

This spring's drama production, "Your Brain on Social Media", by Ian Mc Wethy & Carrie McCossen of Play Scripts Inc., will be presented by the SRMS Drama Department on April 23rd & 24th, at 6:00 pm, both nights. It is a "cautionary tale that is in no way an overreaction to teenagers' online habits," according to the playwright! Join us that evening here, at SRMS, and watch some very talented students. Donations towards our Drama Department will be in lieu of an admission fee.



IB NEWS



Important Dates and Events:

*Portfolio Extravaganza for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will be Thursday, April 25th at 5:30. Invitations will be sent home with students the week of April 1st – 5th. Please ask your child for the invitation.

*8th Grade Wave and Pebble Ceremony will be Wednesday, May 15th at 6:30

6th and 7th grade students have started their Portfolio Extravaganza Projects in their Advanced Language Arts classes and will be provided class time to work on their presentations. 8th grade students should be finishing their “Taking Action” portion of the IB Community Project and should start working on their presentations and reflections. Please help, support, and guide your child with the Portfolio Extravaganza Projects.

If you would like more information, all student documents for Portfolio Extravaganza can be found on the SRMS website – click on the IB & Middle Years Program tab and then click on IB Parent Information link. The Portfolio Extravaganza presentations include:

6th Grade: The Learner Profile and Me - Students will be gathering work samples that show evidence of the IB-MYP Learner Profile attributes (Thinker, Open-minded, Principled, Balanced, Risk-taker, Reflective, Inquirer, Communicator, Caring, Knowledgeable). They may use samples from any class have taken this year, and should plan on keeping work samples that show growth and progression in at least 4 Learner Profile attributes.

7th Grade: International Hall of Fame - Students will be taking on the role of a biographer to research a person from history who they believe should be included in the International Hall of Fame.

8th Grade: IB Community Project - The Community Project focuses on the needs of a community through service learning. Students will be identifying and researching a **need/problem** within a community and coming up with an action plan/solution.

8th Grade IB Project

Attention parents: 8th grade students are in need of the following items for their IB Community Projects:

Board games, soda tabs, and baked goods (cookies, brownies- packaged in threes). The baked goods are needed Friday, April 5th, for the Relay for Life. Please leave all items in the front office– with attention Ms. Taflinger. Thank you!!



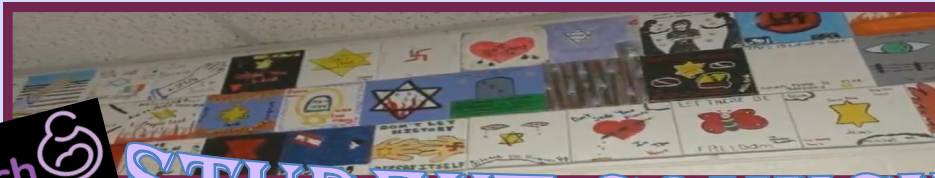
Exchange Club Student of the Month

The March Exchange Club Student of the Month was Alexis Hill. Alexis was nominated by Mrs. Berchtold. She chose Alexis not only because of her academics, but also because of her demeanor in and out of the classroom. Alexis clearly shines bright amongst her peers and is a great representation of SRMS's IB Programme. Her teachers say that she is an incredible student. Alexis also participates in the National Junior Honor Society, is on a soccer team, volunteers at the Humane Society, participates in Wind Ensemble in band and is an editor of the school newsletter, The Sebastian Times. Congratulations Alexis!!!



Living Voices Holocaust Presentation

On March 8th, Elizabeth Rainer, an actress from the organization Living Voices, came to our school to put on a Holocaust presentation for the 8th graders. The presentation was centered around Anne Frank; it was very interesting and informative, and the audience had a blast! It is a fantastic opportunity and tradition!



march of dimes

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Student Council hosted a fundraiser for March of Dimes, who is dedicated to helping babies who were born premature. Our school has met our goal of \$1000!! WOW! Congratulations to the homeroom classes who won a pizza party for contributing the most. In 6th grade, Mrs. Jefferson's class raised \$120.50, in 7th grade, Mr. Moon's class, raised \$101.20, and in 8th grade, Mrs. Ogilvie's class raised \$116.93. Way to go Cowboys!!! March's Casual for a Cause Day was also dedicated to raising funds for the March of Dimes. Be sure to tune into announcements for the next Casual for a Cause on April 18th!

march of dimes



NEWS FROM THE MEDIA CENTER

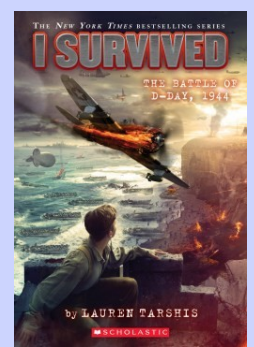
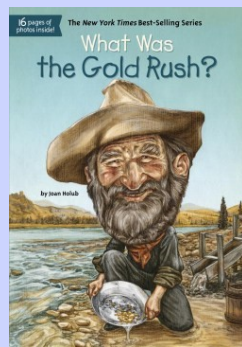
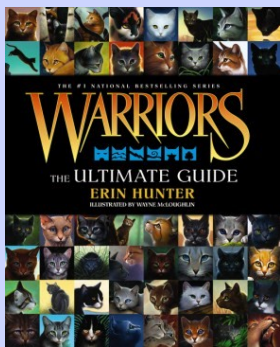


The Sunshine State Young Reader's Award Vote and Celebration will take place in the Media Center on Thursday, April 11th. Students who read at least three of this year's fifteen titles by April 1st and register will be invited to attend where they will vote for their favorite book and enjoy a celebration. Thank you to the Indian River County Elections Office facilitating the voting process. Vote totals will be submitted at the state level and the official winner for 2018/2019 will be announced soon.

Sunshine State Young Reader's Award Program Grades 6-8 title link:

https://www.floridamediaed.org/uploads/6/1/4/2/61420659/6-8_2018-19_ssyra_annotated_list__1_.pdf

Recently Added Titles at SRMS Media Center



The SRMS Media Center is open for students in the morning from 7:30 – 7:50 a.m. Students may read, check out books, use computers for school related activities, study and complete assignments.

YEARBOOK NEWS

Attention Parents & Students:

Yearbooks are still available!

Get yours for only \$50!

Coming Soon:

Yearbook Distribution & Signing Party

Wednesday, May 15th

2:00-2 :45

You must purchase a yearbook to attend the signing party!

ORDER  YOUR
Yearbook





Clinic News



- Spring is still a time for colds and flu! Handwashing is your first and best defense against germs, as well as good nutrition and plenty of sleep!!
- **Attention 6th Grade Parents:** It's not too early to think about 7th grade requirements. In order to start 7th grade, your child needs to have their T-dap Immunization. Letters will be going home March/April to remind you to get your child vaccinated.
- If your child requires medication during the school day, please contact Mrs. Farina for proper forms and procedures. Students are not allowed to carry medication on them while at school unless they have a signed Authorization to Carry form used for inhalers, diabetic supplies, epi-pens, or other emergency medications. All other medications must be stored in the health room, and a signed permission slip and doctor's prescription is needed. This includes cough drops, Tylenol, ibuprofen, vitamins, etc.
- If your child has a medical condition please contact the school health assistant. An individualized care plan may be needed.
- Every student needs to have a Health and Wellness form on file in the health room. Health and Wellness forms went home with the students the third week of school. Have your child return the completed Health and Wellness form to the health room.
- A doctor's note is required for students to carry a water bottle and all medications. This includes inhalers, cough drops, PE excuses, use of wheelchair or crutches, or to wear shoes without a back strap for foot injuries. If your child requires accommodations due to a health/medical issue, please provide a doctor's note so that we can better help your child.
- **For any health concerns contact our school's health assistant, Mrs. Farina, LPN @ 564-5198. You can also visit the District Website and click on "Departments" then "Health Services."**

Pi Day!

American Heritage

In Mrs. Walker's class, math students measured different circular items to discover that the circumference divided by the diameter always results in pi. Pre-algebra students blew bubbles, traced the outline, measured the diameter and circumference and created a scatter plot with the data.



Month



The Month of April is when we celebrate American Heritage Month. Our country was established in 1776 and our founding fathers believed in freedom and individual rights. Many of us have developed our own traditions and cultures, we also have numerous holidays that we celebrate on a national level, such as President's Day. What are some of your traditions?

