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# "Pioneers for the Future"

JUNE 2016

## A note from Mrs. Buckles.....

Dear Pioneer Families,

We here at Garrison-Jones are completing another exciting year of learning and growing. It is hard to believe we will soon be closing our doors for the summer holiday. As the year draws to an end, I reflect on whether we stayed focused on our vision of 100% student success and our mission of educating the whole child. I think about our fifth grade students moving on to middle school and what it means to be a **PIONEER FOR THE FUTURE**. So before we come to a close for this school year, I want to thank our teachers, parents, and students - you are the best! Without all of your time and support, we could not have accomplished all we have done this year.

I remember thinking in August with a lump in my stomach all that lie ahead of us. Now I sit in disbelief about all that has been accomplished. With all that said, the summer break is a time to relax, play, and escape into books. This summer, our students will have hundreds of books available to them through MyOn. Students have already been accessing MyOn here at school and they love it! They can continue reading throughout the summer at anytime and from anywhere. Please encourage your child to use their time reading. Develop the habit of filling their time with reading, whether in the car running an errand or waiting for an appointment. Make the summer a challenge for your child and help them set a goal on how many books they read each week - then celebrate!

We close this year with the retirement of seven outstanding and dedicated staff members. Each of these staff members would probably agree that this was not a job, but rather a calling. They have each contributed in ways that will extend beyond their years here at Garrison-Jones Elementary. We feel honored to have been able to work alongside each one of these great **PIONEERS FOR THE FUTURE!**

As we move into the summer months, I wish each of you a wonderful and relaxing summer. I appreciate all you have done to make this past school year such a success. Garrison-Jones Elementary depends on the great Pioneering parents of our students. Thank you for keeping our mission of educating the whole child alive and well. I look forward to seeing all of our **PIONEERS** back her in August.

Sincerely,

Karen Buckles, Principal

Garrison-Jones Elementary



## Summer Reading—Free e-books!!!

All Garrison-Jones students, grades K-5, have been introduced to the online e-book program, myOn in the library or computer labs. They will be bringing home information with instructions on how to log in and read! The log in information is the same as their StMath user ID and password. Both students and teachers love it!

For more reading ideas, please visit:  
<http://pcsb.schoolwires.net/Page/3782>



## Safety First Tip for June



Every month our newsletter shares safety tips to ensure that our school is the safest in Pinellas County. As many of you have heard Mrs. Buckles say our first priority here at Garrison-Jones Elementary is **SAFETY**. We as a safety team here at Garrison-Jones want to assure our school families and community that we meet often and are always reviewing and revising our safety plans to ensure that we are the safest school in Pinellas County.

This month's tip is going to focus on student's tips to stay safe over the summer and the car circle pedestrian procedures. First summer time is here, and we want to remind our students the importance of wearing their bike helmets when riding their bikes, and also that they should never swim in a pool without adult supervision. These are just two tips that will help our students stay safe over the summer break. The next area of concern is that we have adults crossing through the moving car line, there is a marked pedestrian walk located in the north portion of our car circle. Please use this instead of walking through the moving car line. Our students are very impressionable and if they see an adult crossing through the moving cars, they may also think that it is okay to cross there too! This could be a potentially dangerous situation for anyone of our students.

As always thank you for helping us to keep our school the safest place to be in Pinellas County.

Have a great summer.

Have a great summer!

1st day of school for 2016/2017: August 10th

Class lists posted on front windows: August 8th (after 3:00)

Meet and Greet: August 9th 1:00-2:00



**peachjar eflyers**

Pinellas County Schools is going green by moving to a paperless way of distributing flyers.

**peachjar eflyers**

is the new electronic program that was launched February 29, 2016. You simply have to make sure our Garrison-Jones front office has your current email address or you can access our flyers from our webpage by clicking the Peachjar eflyers icon at the bottom of Announcements.



Our website ([pcsb.org/garrison-es](http://pcsb.org/garrison-es)) has been up and running now for quite some time! Please take some time to explore it! We have so much information for our parents and students such as:

- The weekly messages
- Grade Level Supply Lists
- FSA practice tests
- Peachjar
- Calendar
- Go Math Resources for all ages
- And much more information

Visit <http://pcsb.org/Page/3782> for great fun summer activities for our students!



Learn To Type



## Get in the Game and Read

Pinellas County Schools has teamed up with various partners to help eliminate the summer slide. Barnes and Noble has just started their Summer Reading Triathlon Program. Get in the Game and Read through Pinellas County Schools can be located through the website [www.PCSB.org/summerreading](http://www.PCSB.org/summerreading). This reading incentive program has already been introduced by Mrs. Williams. The Rays also have a summer reading program. The website for that <http://www.tampabay.com/nic/raysreading>.

The Dunedin Public library also has a reading program over the summer, as do most of the other local public libraries.

## Math Fun Too!

There are also several math websites available for students to explore over the summer. STMath may be continued over the summer months. Students may use their same user name and log in information that they use in school. Some other websites to check out are: <http://multiplication.com>. This is a wonderful site to practice and review multiplication skills. It has both interactive and printed materials. There is also <http://aplusmath.com>. This website has interactive games for all grade levels. A student favorite is <http://coolmath.com>. This again, has many interactive games for all learning levels.

Whatever your students decide to do, read practice and enjoy over the summer!!!



# Sunshine State Young Readers Battle of the Books 2016-2017 Grades 3-5 Summer Reading

Below is the list for the Sunshine State Young Readers Battle of the Books list for the next school year. Please encourage your children to take a look at the list and to try and read a few this summer. Your local library would be a great source to find some, if not all of them! I'm sure there is at least one on the list that they will love. I will be looking forward to hearing about everyone's favorite book when they return to school in August.

Have a great summer and keep reading!!!

-Mrs. Williams, Garrison Jones Library Media Specialist

<b><i>Absolutely Almost</i></b>	_____	Lisa Graff	<i>Lexile 750</i>
<b><i>All Four Stars</i></b>	_____	Tara Dairman	<i>Lexile 950</i>
<b><i>Circus Mirandus</i></b>	_____	Cassie Beasley	<i>Lexile 710</i>
<b><i>Dinosaur Boy</i></b>	_____	Cory Putman Oakes	<i>Lexile 730</i>
<b><i>Eddie Red</i></b>			
<b><i>Undercover: Mystery on Museum Mile</i></b>	_____	Marcia Wells	<i>Lexile 710</i>
<b><i>Fish Finelli: Seagulls Don't Eat Pickles</i></b>	_____	E.S. Farber	<i>Lexile 610</i>
<b><i>Fish in a Tree</i></b>	_____	Lynda Mullaly Hunt	<i>Lexile 550</i>
<b><i>Gabby Duran and the Unsittables</i></b>	_____	Daryle Connors & Elise Allen	<i>Lexile</i>
<b><i>Half a Chance</i></b>	_____	Cynthia Lord	<i>Lexile 690</i>
<b><i>The Pet War</i></b>	_____	Allen Woodrow	<i>Lexile 590</i>
<b><i>Pip Bartlett's Guide to Magical Creatures</i></b>	_____	Maggie Stiefvater & Jackson Pearce	<i>Lexile</i>
<b><i>Prairie Evers</i></b>	_____	Ellen Airgood	<i>Lexile 790</i>
<b><i>Serafina's Promise</i></b>	_____	Ann Burg	<i>Lexile 590</i>
<b><i>The Terrible Two</i></b>	_____	Mac Barnett & Jory John	<i>Lexile 620</i>
<b><i>The Worm Whisperer</i></b>	_____	Betty Hicks	<i>Lexile 560</i>

# Counselor's Corner

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## Character Trait of the Month:

### Courage

*Being brave in difficult situations;*

*Challenging yourself.*

*“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak;  
courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.”*

~Winston Churchill



## PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR TRANSITION

Anxiety is a normal feeling when transitioning to a new grade or school. Some children will be affected by grade/school transitions more than others.

Whether your child is entering kindergarten, starting middle school, or just moving up another grade, preparing him/her is very helpful and important.

- ★ **Focus On The Positives:** new friends, new teachers, and new opportunities
- ★ **Address Fears:** listen to and validate your child's fears, talk about fears you had at their age & how you handled it
- ★ **Attend School Events:** take advantage of orientations, many include tours of the building
- ★ **Reach Out For Support:** if your child is experiencing high levels of anxiety about the upcoming transition, consult available resources (books, internet, family friends) or the school counselor and teacher

## FUN & FREE IDEAS FOR SUMMER

Spending quality time with your child does not have to be expensive.

**Some times the most valuable things don't cost any money at all** (adapted from funattic.com):

1. Take a walk or go for a bike ride around your neighborhood.
2. Visit an art, history, or science museum.
3. Go to the park. Pack a picnic lunch and invite some friends!
4. Go fishing. Have your child learn about the different types of fish they could catch.
5. Go to your public library. There are many great activities going on all summer long.
6. Start a family book club. Read the same book as your child and discuss.
7. Have your child keep a journal of their thoughts, feelings, and experiences.
8. Do a family community service project.
9. Teach your child how to cook and bake.
10. Write letters to friends and family. You can even send some of those wonderful works of art that are usually overflowing in your home!



## Vaccine Information for Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

As you begin thinking about middle school, don't forget your child's health and well-being! The transition to middle school is a great time for kids to see their doctors for an annual health exam and to review their immunizations. In Florida, one of the vaccines that your child is required to receive in middle school before entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade is a booster called "Tdap", which stands for Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis vaccine. Tdap vaccine can be given to kids after their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. By Florida law, you child will not be permitted to enter or attend the seventh grade without proof of compliance.

The Department of Health and Pinellas County Schools work together to ensure that our students are protected from disease, and we strongly encourage our families to prepare ahead of time! Make an appointment today for your preteen to get the required Tdap vaccine and to update their other vaccinations!