

Leila G. Davis Elementary School

November 21, 2014
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www.davis-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us/



Principal Kim Hill
Assistant Principal William Durst

Area 2 Associate Superintendent:
Mr. Robert Poth
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A Message From Mrs. Hill

I cannot believe it is almost the end of November. This week we have had a tease of winter weather and next week we will be celebrating Thanksgiving. As the holidays quickly approach, sometimes we start to think about the pressures of the season and all of the things we need to get done before the actual holiday is upon us. Just as with your home family, at Davis there are many holiday traditions that we have been celebrating here at school. From doing outreach projects for others in our community, or writing notes of "thanks", to classroom holiday learning events, the season becomes that much more real in our minds.

I would like to take a moment to say THANKS to each of you during this holiday season. Our wonderfully active PTA community supports us daily at Davis. No matter what the job is, the task is always done with a smile on the faces of our many Davis parents. Your support is something to very proud of. As each of you volunteer your time, energy, and dedication, our school becomes a stronger place. Our children reap the rewards from the labor and love you provide to each of us. I know that each of our Davis parents are doing all they can for our students and staff and that is something special for which to be thankful. I am thankful that you have chosen to "be there" for our school community by helping us each and every day.

As we approach the Thanksgiving and winter breaks and the season of giving, I reflect upon my many blessings...blessings that each of us share - our families, our friends, having food and shelter, and the list continues.

I hope each of you know what a joy it is for me to represent such a fine community as Davis Elementary. Coming to work each day is like coming to my extended family outside of my home. During this holiday season, I wish that each of you enjoy the upcoming holidays with family and friends.

Great American Teach-In

On November 19th we hosted another successful Great American Teach-In! We had such a wide variety of guests who shared their careers and talents with our students. I'm sure many of our students came home and shared the many things they learned from our visitors. If not, be sure to ask your child about this very special day. All of us at Leila Davis send a sincere "thank you" to each person who volunteered precious time to make our Great American Teach-In a tremendous success. We also extend kudos to our amazing Volunteer Coordinator, Angelle Gallers, for organizing the schedule of speakers. We will always remember this exciting day filled with learning for our students (and even our adults)! Thank you!



Clearwater Police Office John Brown and our youngest students

Construction Update

We had a slight delay in the start of our roofing project. Next week (while students are off), construction materials will be delivered and the project will begin. While we hope to have minimal disruption during this project, there may be a need to reroute visitor or student access around campus during certain phases of the construction. We will do our best to give advance notice of changes to traffic patterns (by foot or by car). Thanks for your cooperation during this project.

Media Center Collections

Don't forget to collect those Box Tops. This year each teacher is collecting Box Tops to earn an iPad or tablet for the classroom. Each Box Top helps to reach the goal! We have collected over 13,000 so far this year and that puts our teachers much closer to earning technology for their classrooms. The next collection date is December 19th.



Let Us Recognize...

Every year we nominate at least 2 of our volunteers for the **Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award**. Our two nominees this year are **Cherie Green** and **Ann Spear**. They come to school multiple times a week to help us with a variety of tasks. We are so excited to put their names forward as representatives of Davis.

Volunteer of the Month

Kirsten Yonkin

Our volunteer of the month for November is invaluable to our gifted program. She is available any time for anything they need. Mrs. Koss and Mrs. Fair-Purcell are very grateful for all of her help!



Important Dates



- November 24-28 NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break
- December 3 9am Volunteer Orientation
- December 4 Book Fair begins!
McDonald's Spirit Night
5-8pm, ESE teachers will be there!
- December 5 PTA Movie Night
Rio 2 begins at 7pm
- December 9 PTA meeting 6pm
SAC meeting 7pm
- December 10 ROAR Rally 8:45am
- December 12 K-Kids meeting 7:45am
- December 16 Winter Choral Concert 7pm
- December 17 All Pro Dads meeting 7:30am
Astro Skate 2:30-5:30pm
- December 18 Chili's Spirit Night, all day!
- December 19 December newsletter available
Last day of school before Winter Break!

Volunteer Orientation

If you have become a Davis volunteer in the last few months or would like to know more about volunteering with us, please stop by our orientation on December 3rd at 9am to learn more.

Join our Email List!

If you have not already done so, please visit our school website at <http://www.davis-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us/> and click on Join the LGD Email List to receive valuable and up-to-date information on all the happenings here at Davis.

Class/Program Sponsorship

Davis Dreamers (\$300 and above)

Davis Partner (\$200-\$299)
Boyles Aluminum

Davis Friend (\$100-\$199)

Davis Associate (\$35-\$99)
Mindful Meals Personal Chef

*If you are interested in adopting a class, please see the front office or your child's teacher for more details.



Great American Teach In



Mrs. Carleton's class after face painting

We had SO many amazing speakers take time out of their schedules to teach us this week. As I walked around during the day, I saw such a variety of topics, from baseball to technology to water safety. Our students very much enjoyed the break from a normal schedule and learned a lot of new things. Thank you to PTA for providing us with a hospitality room for speakers to relax and have a snack between sessions. And a HUGE thank you goes out to all of you who spoke to our students throughout the week. It is because of you that Davis is the kind of place we love to come each day.

Angelle Gallers, Family & Community Liaison

The Paint Palette

Greetings! The holidays are approaching quickly and Artsonia.com has the perfect stocking stuffer for your loved ones! Create a custom gift featuring your child's artwork on it **BEFORE December 15th** (use promo code HOLIDAYFUNDS14) and get 25% off one regular priced item. Did you know... from all the purchases you make on Artsonia, **they donate 20% back to Davis for art supplies!** Please check the site regularly for updated holiday artwork. I'm photographing as fast as I can and would love your assistance! If interested, email me at sullivang@pcsb.org (make sure you are a registered volunteer) and we can post more art projects for everyone to see!

Creatively yours,
Miss Sullivan

Goodbye, Jeff Wasilewski!

We wish the best of luck to Jeff Wasilewski, our Head Plant Operator. Jeff has accepted the Head Plant Operator position at Oak Grove Middle beginning on December 1st. Jeff has been an important face around the Davis campus for the past eight years. His commitment to Davis extends way beyond his daily job responsibilities. Jeff has been an integral part of developing effective processes related to the safety and cleanliness of our campus. We will miss him, but know we will still see him around because his daughter will be finishing up her fifth grade year.

With Jeff's transfer, we welcome our new Head Plant Operator, Todd Belair. Todd comes to us from Tarpon Elementary as an experienced HPO. He is excited to join our Davis family and is looking forward to a smooth transition. If you see Todd around campus, please give him a warm Bear Cub welcome.



Dr. Jenny Edwards teaches the kids about dental hygiene

Music Notes

Chorus

If you ordered a Davis Chorus polo shirt, they should arrive by Friday, December 5th.

Our performance time for the Safety Harbor for the Kiwanis Arts and Crafts Show on Sunday, December 14th has been set for 11:25-11:55 am. Students should report to the gazebo on Main Street in Safety Harbor at 11:00. Feel free to arrive early to enjoy performances from other bands and choruses. We will warm-up at 11:15 and perform at 11:25. This performance is optional but we hope many of you can make it!

Our official winter program will be on Tuesday, December 16th, 7:00 pm at Heritage United Methodist Church. Students should report to the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 for warm-ups in black pants and the Davis Chorus polo or another plain royal blue shirt (polo style preferred).

Kindergarten and First Grade

Our Winter Arts Night will be Thursday, December 18th at 6:30 here at school featuring musical performances by all of our Kindergarten and First Grade students. Look for lyrics sheets to go home with students this week.

Recorders

There was a delay in the recorder shipment, so we are still waiting to begin instruction on recorders for Third Graders. Thank you for your patience - we will distribute them as soon as they arrive! Teachers will let students know when to bring in their recorders if they did not purchase one through the school.

"Bach" to the Future

Second graders will be singing through the songs from "Bach to the Future" in December. Song files and lyrics will be posted on the music course page in Focus. Any students interested in auditioning for solos should familiarize themselves with the song(s) over the winter holidays and be ready to audition in January. Audition dates will be announced after winter break.

Songs of the Month

Students should be familiar with "The Star-Spangled Banner," "This Land is Your Land," and "America" ("My Country 'tis of Thee"). We will review all of these songs and our school song (to the tune of "Yankee Doodle Dandy") in December.

Mr. Martinez and Mrs. Dykes

Looking for a Way to Give?



Dear families, the holiday season is just around the corner and we are asking for support with our Holiday Giving Tree. The Holiday Giving Tree offers assistance to some of our families that may need some help this year. The tree is located in the front foyer. If you chose to help one of the children, please take a star from the tree, purchase the recommended gift and return the WRAPPED gifts (Star attached) to Davis Elementary by Monday Dec. 15th. If you have any questions please contact Mona McGregor at 725-7972 ext. 2010. We want to thank you in advance for your support during this holiday season.

Mona McGregor, LMHC, School Counselor



Media Center News



The Leila Davis Book Fair begins soon! Mark your calendars now for this exciting event. Our Book Fairs offer a great variety of literature for all age levels. All Book Fair purchases benefit our school library program and library shelving.

Thursday, 12/4-Thursday 12/11

Early Hours 8:05-8:45am

Shopping *with* an Adult only

(Students may not shop without a parent before school starts)

Regular Book Fair Hours 12/4-12/11

8:45am-2:30pm

Book Fair will also be open during PTA Movie Night for after hours shopping.

Friday 12/5

5:00pm-7:30pm

We are still in need of volunteers to help with our Book Fair. If you are interested in volunteering please sign up for a time by clicking on the following link.

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090548AAA623A64-leila5

All volunteers must have a volunteer form on file at Davis and have an active status. If you are not sure if you are approved and active please contact Mrs. Scott scottsha@pcsb.org



Istation is a new digital reading program that students have been using here at Davis for a few months. You now have access to Istation at home. Directions were sent home this week on how to download the app to your Ipads or the program to your computers.

Istation is hosting an Istation Home for the Holidays Challenge! Students are encouraged to log-in and use Istation at home during Thanksgiving and Winter Breaks. The **Istation Home for the Holidays** home usage contest starts Monday, Nov. 17, 2014, and continues throughout the holidays until Monday, Jan. 8, 2015. Log-in and read to help our school win!

Mrs. Scott, Media Technology Specialist
scottsha@pcsb.org

Mighty Mu Math Competition

Congratulations to our 5th Grade Mighty Mu Math Team who placed FIRST at competition this past weekend at Safety Harbor Middle! Way to go Kapser M, Maddie P, Logan E, and Lucas J. They have been practicing hard these past few weeks to prepare for the competition. Way to go Logan E. for placing third overall in the individual competition. A special thanks to Mrs. Koss and Ms. Fair-Purcell for sponsoring and helping prepare the kids for this event.



The PTA Page

November 2014



Message from our President

We just hosted our annual Bingo Night – it was a huge success, as always. Thank you to the fabulous PTA volunteers who put this event together. Our Program Chair, Inyoung Curry, did a fantastic job coordinating the evening and those who attended had a great time. We are looking forward to the next fun event – Movie Night. Don't miss it.

Many parents donated their time to give a mini presentation at our Great American Teach In earlier this week. The students love to hear about possible careers. It widens their horizons for the future as they dream about who they will become after high school. Your participation is much appreciated. Thank you!

It takes a team of people to keep the Davis PTA up and running. If you would like to join as a volunteer and help at any of our events, please contact Amy Christensen. We would love to have your help.

The spring Walk a Thon is our next big fundraiser – we will need many helpers on February 20th to encourage the walkers and help pass out water. Send an email to AmyChristensen@tampabay.rr.com if you are able to help anytime on 2/20/15. The walk takes place during PE classes that day.

On behalf of the PTA, have a wonderful time with your family during Thanksgiving break. We all have much to be thankful for.



Amy Christensen, Davis PTA President

WASHINGTON DC TRIP FOR 5TH GRADE

New this year, the 5th graders are planning a field trip to Washington DC in May. They will be visiting all the sights in our nation's capital. Students are working hard to raise money for their trip. Please help support the 5th graders during their fundraising efforts this year. Thank you in advance ☺



MOVIE NIGHT IS COMING SOON

Parents, every year the PTA hosts a FREE movie night – that's right, FREE. We bring out a huge movie screen on the PE court and serve you popcorn and hot chocolate. This is a fun family event. You can bring your blankets or lawn chairs to sit and watch the movie. Feel free to bring snacks or dinner along too. This year's movie is **Rio 2**. The movie will begin at 7:00 pm. We will be handing out glow sticks to the students. We hope you will join us for this fun event. Mark your calendars for Friday, December 5th.



Campbell's Soup Labels

We are collecting Campbell Soup Labels. Collecting these Labels will award our school with educational equipment with proof of purchase. Please include the bar code when sending in these labels. We do NOT receive credit for these labels without the bar code.

DISCOUNT FOR DAVIS FAMILIES

T-Bowe's Carpet, Tile, and Grout Restoration is offering 5% off the total bill for Davis families AND 10% of the bill will be donated back to Davis. All Bear Cub families get guaranteed scheduling before the holidays. Call now to get your floors cleaned... 813-448-2277

Calendar of Events

Dates to Remember

Nov.	24-28	Thanksgiving Break, No School
Dec.	5	Movie Night - 7:00 on the PE court
Dec.	10	ROAR Rally at 8:40 am
Dec.	22 -5 th	Winter Break, No School
Jan.	21	Gatti Town Spirit Night 5-8:00 pm
Feb.	6	Father Daughter Dance 6-8:00 pm
Feb.	20 th	Mother Son Bowling 6-8:00 pm