

SPRINGWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The Owl Gazette

October 1, 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

When Mrs. Austin and I visit classrooms, we continue to see engaged students and enthusiastic teachers. Progress alerts have gone home, conferences will be beginning soon, and report cards are not far behind! Thank you for all of your support as we work together to help your children be successful.

Did you notice that Springwood had an article in the Tallahassee Democrat this past month? We were fortunate to have Justice Peggy Quince as our speaker for our celebration of Constitution Day on September 17th. The boys and girls really enjoyed it and learned a lot!

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful weather. We are definitely headed into fall! Enjoy your weekend!

Sincerely,

[Claire A. Frick](#), Principal

Important Dates

- Monday, Oct. 4th** - 6:00 - 6:45 - 3rd Grade Parent Night
- Tuesday, Oct. 5th** - Writes-Upon-Request (WUR) #1 (2nd - 5th)
- Tuesday, Oct. 5th** - 12:00 - 1:30 - SAC Meeting (Guidance Hallway)
- Tuesday, Oct. 5th** - 6:00 - 7:00 - PTO Meeting (Media Ctr.)
- Thursday, Oct. 7th** - 9:00 - 10:30 - Partner Kickoff (Civic Ctr.)
- Thursday, Oct. 7th** - 6:00 - 6:45 - 5th Grade Parent Night
- Thursday, Oct. 7th** - District Advisory Council @ Howell Ctr. (6:00 p.m.)
- Tuesday, Oct. 12th** - SITE meeting - Media Center (3:30 p.m.)
- Tuesday, Oct. 19th** - Individual Picture Retakes
- Tuesday, Oct. 19th** - 5:00 - 8:00 - Spirit Night @ Chick Fil A on N. Monroe
- Thursday, Oct. 21st** - End of 1st nine weeks
- Friday, Oct. 22nd** - Teacher Inservice Day - No School for Students

Curriculum Spotlight



This year, Leon County Schools adopted a challenging new math program known as *Go Math!* Based on Florida's New Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS), students learn with understanding as they use models, manipulatives, language and symbols to build mathematical ideas that make sense to them. Teachers and administrators have all attended training on the new program. Parents, you will be excited to know that the entire student edition is available online for your child to use at home. To log in, go to www.Thinkcentral.com. Enter your Username: last name first initial birth month birthday (all together, no spaces)

Example (John Smith, birthday June 3rd) would log in as follows:
Smithj0603

This is the same as their SuccessMaker login. They will know what this means!

Password: owls1

Go to the "Mathematics" tab and select "Go Math! Florida" tab!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW K TEACHER!

Our newest owl is Ms. Stephanie Shipe who will officially welcome her baby owlets on Monday, October 4th! Ms. Shipe comes to us with several years experience as a kindergarten teacher. She holds a B.S. degree in Child Development and an M.S. degree in Elementary Education, in addition to certification in Educational Leadership.

PTO NEWS (Kelly Wilson, PTO President)

We are eager to have a strong PTO this year, thanks to the support of all of our families. Each year the Springwood PTO has been able to provide valuable programs and materials for the children and the staff and this year will be no exception. We thank you in advance for your support. We also look forward to providing wonderful activities for the entire family!

We would also like to remind you that if you haven't submitted your volunteer form, it's available on the school's website. There are some great volunteer opportunities – we can't do it without you!

ATTENTION...FUN, FREE ANNOUNCEMENT—In celebration of Fire Prevention Week, October 5th from 6 – 7 p.m. in conjunction with our PTO meeting, we will have a fire truck on site, Sparky the Fire Dog will be stopping by for a visit, and fire prevention education will be presented. This is going to be fun and educational for the entire family! We will have WATCH D.O.G.S.' leadership assisting with fire truck explorations and available for questions. We will also be discussing ideas and feedback for this year's events, fundraisers, programs, etc. **BRING ALL FEEDBACK!** Can't make the meeting? No worries; e-mail us your thoughts at Springwood.pto@gmail.com. We'd love to hear what you're thinking!

This promises to be a wonderful school year. The goal of the PTO is to support the students and staff of Springwood Elementary School and help support Springwood's theme, "Working Together to Make a Difference".

We thank you,

Springwood PTO Board Officers



Springwood Elementary PTO
wants to invite YOU and YOUR FAMILY to
join us in celebrating Fire Prevention Week

When: Tuesday, October 5th, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Where: Parent Drop off lane at Springwood Elementary School
What? FUN, FUN, FUN! Community Partners, Education on fire prevention, a fire truck on-site to explore and Sparky the Fire Dog!!

PTO will also be conducting our general meeting in the Media Center. We will be discussing ideas for this year's events and fundraisers. We'd love to hear from your ideas!!

Questions? E-mail: springwood.pto@gmail.com

Cell Phones

Students must keep cell phones on silent and in their backpacks while under school supervision. Failure to do so will result in the phones being confiscated and held for pickup by a parent.

Business Partners (Tangi Brown, Business Partner Coordinator)

We need your help to build business partners for Springwood. Submit your business card to the school for an opportunity to receive a gift card! You may send it with your child or drop it off in the front office! The drawing will be held October 21, 2010 on our "Springwood in the Morning" TV Show. You do not need to be present to receive the card.

Volunteers ([Antoinette Hunter](#), Volunteer Coordinator)

Do you plan on volunteering at Springwood? Then you need to fill out a volunteer form! If you volunteer anytime during the year, please don't forget to post your hours in our Volunteer Log. The log is located on the front counter in the main office. For more information, please contact Antoinette Hunter, Volunteer Coordinator at 488-6225.

SITE - School-Based Decision-Making Team

Our SITE team meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. SITE addresses items that affect the entire school. Parents are invited to attend.

SPRINGWOOD DRESS CODE (reviewed and amended by SITE on 9/14/10)

Based on [LCS policy 3.06](#), students' wearing apparel and grooming shall be the responsibility of the individual and his/her parents/guardians within the following guidelines:

- Dress and grooming shall be clean and in keeping with health, sanitary, and safety requirements.
- Dress and grooming shall not be permitted to disrupt the teaching-learning process or school activity.

The following items are deemed to be unsafe or inappropriate to wear at school:

- *Baggy pants that show the underwear (belts should be worn at all times)*
- *Flip flops, sandals without straps, backless shoes, or high heels*
- *Hair dyed in multi-colors or unusual colors*
- *Make-up and perfume is strongly discouraged*
- *Halter tops and spaghetti-strap shirts*
- *Hats (inside buildings)*
- *Shirts that show the midriff*
- *Shorts and skirts that are too tight or too short (fingertip length)*
- *T-shirts with inappropriate sayings or pictures*

Please help us by adhering to these dress code rules so that we do not have to send a student home for wearing inappropriate items of clothing or footwear.

NOTE: Silly bands will be allowed unless they become a distraction. If a child is doing anything other than wearing them, the bands will be taken away and held for pickup by a parent.



NOTE: Only rubber-soled, closed-toe shoes are allowed for PE class due to safety. If students do not have proper shoes, they receive a "0" for the day which will affect their grade. Please help your child to remember to wear proper shoes for PE. Your teacher can provide the days of the week when your child has PE if he/she hasn't already done so.

Changes in Dismissal

If your child will be going home a different way than normal, please call before 2:00 p.m. The last hour of the day is very busy for our front office staff as well as our teachers. After 2:00 p.m., **we cannot guarantee** that your child's teacher will receive the message. If your child attends our EDEP program, please contact them in addition to contacting the front office. Our goal is to get every child home safely. We appreciate you letting your child know in the morning about any changes in transportation. If you send a note, please remind your child to give the note to her teacher!

Springwood Parent Listserv

If you are interested in receiving school news (regular and emergency notices) via e-mail, please visit our [web page](#).

Watch D.O.G.S. - Dads of Great Students

([Gordon Sasser](#), [Paul Sweeney](#) & [Leroy Hunter](#), Coordinators)

Watch D.O.G.S. held our first meeting September 7th, at 6:30 p.m. in conjunction with PTO. We are putting together a Leadership Team and discussing objectives for the year. Come see us on October 5th at 6:00 in front of the school! Check us out on the school's web site or call Tina Sweeney in the front office for more information!

Homeroom Parents

We are looking for an enthusiastic parent from every class to become a homeroom parent. As the homeroom parent, you would be responsible for coordinating classroom events, assisting with our Spring Festival, assisting with PTO sponsored activities, and field trips. We would also call upon the homeroom parent to take the leadership role on volunteer activities that will take place during the school year. If you are interested, please complete a volunteer application and let your child's teacher know that you are interested in volunteering at Springwood in that capacity.

Positive Behavior Support ([Beverley Remland](#), Guidance Counselor)

The PBS Team here at Springwood has planned an exciting 1st nine weeks celebration to take place on October 21st. The celebration is part of our schoolwide reward system to encourage all our students to follow our Springwood expectations which are: Springwood Owl's are Respectful, Responsible and Safe. This is a fun activity to reward students and further reinforce their positive behaviors.

SAC (School Advisory Council)

Our next regular SAC meeting will be held October 5th at 12:00 noon in the Guidance Hallway. Mr. Scotty Crowe, from the LCS Office of Teaching and Learning, will join us to discuss the important role that SAC has in the school improvement process. If you are interested in serving on one of our school improvement committees (Reading, Math, Science, Writing, Positive Behavior Support/Attendance, or Parent Involvement) please contact [Claire Frick](#) at 488-6225. Committees meet at various times throughout the school year, as necessary. The SAC assists in preparation and evaluation of the school improvement plan, and assists in the decision-making process at the school regarding budget, training, instructional materials, staffing, student support services and other matters of resource allocation related to the school improvement plan. SAC meetings are open and subject to the Sunshine Law. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Student Drop-off/Pick up Procedures

The front driveway, where adults are supervising, is to be used to drop off students in the morning (**no earlier than 7:45 a.m.**) and to pick up students in the afternoon (**no later than 3:20 p.m.**). We can move cars quickly and safely through the driveway with your cooperation. Please help us keep our children safe by observing the following rules:

- Cross only at the crosswalks. **Children must be escorted by a parent while in a crosswalk.**
- Please **do not use your cell phone** while you are in the pickup/drop off line. Adults who are walking should also refrain from cell phone use in and around moving vehicles.
- Always have your children exit your vehicle from the right side nearest the sidewalk.
- Be sure your child removes his/her backpack before buckling up!
- Please follow the posted **5 MPH** speed limit at all times.

Releasing Students

ALL PERSONS, PARENTS OR VOLUNTEERS, MUST ALWAYS SIGN IN AT THE MAIN OFFICE BEFORE GOING ANYWHERE ON OUR CAMPUS, EVEN DURING MORNING HOURS BEFORE SCHOOL. YOU WILL BE ISSUED A NAME TAG, WHICH WILL INDICATE THAT YOU HAVE FOLLOWED THIS PROCEDURE. ANYONE NOT WEARING A NAME TAG WILL BE DIRECTED TO THE FRONT OFFICE. PROVIDING A SAFE AND ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS IS A PRIORITY AT SPRINGWOOD.

Please remember that you must present identification, such as a driver's license with a photograph, when signing out a child early or when coming to speak to your child for any reason. We use this procedure for parents we see often, as well as for those faces that may be newer to us. Please schedule doctor's appointments after students are dismissed.

"The Leon County School District does not discriminate against any person on the basis of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, race, religion, national origin, age, color or disability."