

Eagle Express

From the Principal

Dear Eagle Families,

We are having an interesting but successful school year! We are committed to our school mission to provide a learning environment that addresses the academic needs of your child. The mission of Greenwood Lakes Middle School is to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be productive citizens. Please reach out to your teachers and the Front Office if you need any academic support during this unprecedented time.

Along with teaching the curriculum, we are also preparing your child for the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). These computer-based assessments will begin May 3rd and continue through May 18th. Specific grade level information and dates will be sent out through Skyward Family Access and posted on our Greenwood Lakes Middle School calendar later. District guidance will be provided for SCVS and Seminole Connect students. Visit www.greenwoodlakes.scps.k12.fl.us for more details. Remember to update both your email and phone numbers in Skyward Family Access. You can do this at home by simply logging into and updating your contact information.

We encourage you to check out the types of questions your child will be asked to answer on these rigorous assessments. You can do this by going to <http://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>. You will then click "Take the Computer-Based Practice Tests", click "Sign In" (no need to change the Guest log in information), select the grade level and click "Yes", and then select the Student Practice Test you would like to take. All students will participate in a refresher of the FSA testing computer skills prior to the test.

We appreciate any time you can devote to you and your students understanding of the FSA.

We believe that our students can do anything they wish to do and can be anything they wish to be. We want to provide hope and encouragement to all students to dream big and go after their dreams. If there is anything we can do to help your child, please do not hesitate to contact us.

As Always, Let's SOAR Eagles!

Breezi Erickson, *Principal*



Volume XV • Issue 4
JANUARY 2021

Administration

Mrs. Breezi Erickson, *Principal*

Mr. Rendon Fletcher, *Assistant Principal*
Ms. Jacqueline Wick, *Assistant Principal*

Mr. Evan Sokolowsky
School Administration Manager (S.A.M.)

Ms. Lauren Fedi, *Dean of Students*
Ms. Megan Waller, *Dean of Students*

Ms. Cherish Beacham, *Guidance Counselor*
Mrs. Kimberly Longarzo, *Guidance Counselor*

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<http://academypublishing.com/schools/greenwoodlakes/greenwoodlakes.php>

'EAGLE EXPRESS'
January 2021
Published Six Times Per Year
Greenwood Lakes Middle School
601 Lake Park Drive
Lake Mary, FL 32746
Issue # 4

Mission Statement

The mission of Greenwood Lakes Middle School is to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be productive citizens.

Math

6th Grade

6th grade standard math is all about graphing on a coordinate plane, making connections between distance of ordered pairs, and reflections. Students will be able to create pictures and graph points in all 4 quadrants. Students will continue the understanding of writing algebraic equations, graphing inequalities, solving equations and equations with two variables. ** This Unit is very important because students will be learning how to solve basic equations that will lead into two step equations, variables on both sides and other algebraic equations. Students are building the foundation and without a solid foundation, future concepts may become challenging.

6th grade advanced math students will be finishing up equations with two variable equations (independent/dependent variables). Students will then begin working on statistics and analyzing data. This is a very fun section and we can tie in real-world problems with data(our favorite). We are planning on reviewing 6th grade standards that students have learned during 1st and 2nd quarter.

GEM students have a busy schedule for the third nine weeks. Students will be focusing on geometry in both 7th grade and 8th grade, along with angle relationships and 6th grade statistics. It is crucial that students are completing their Virtual Bridge Assignments, taking notes, watching videos and doing the practice. Students will be assessed on 6th grade standards when they take FSA in May. The 6th grade standards are not being taught in class and students are responsible on learning all 6th grade standards at home.

7th Grade

In 7th Advanced, we are finishing up learning about slope and functions and will be moving into geometry. We will work on modeling geometric figures and finding the circumference, area, and volume of geometric shapes

In 7th Standard, we just finished our Unit on Ratios and Proportions. The students got to work first hand on solving for tax, tip, commission and simple interest which they will definitely need in their futures. We will be moving on to writing and evaluating expressions. They will be introduced to adding and subtracting linear equations.

Pre-Algebra

Pre-Algebra students are diving into Unit 7 on Volume. Students are learning how to find the volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres.

Make sure to ask your child how many cones fit into a cylinder and to explain how that affects the volume formula! Students then will move onto Real Numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem. Quarter 3 will wrap up with Transformations, including translations, reflections, rotations, and dilations as well as Angle Relationships. First semester material will cover 55% of the FSA, so students will continue to be exposed to this content through Bellwork problems. It is crucial that students not only attend class physically but also mentally each and every day!

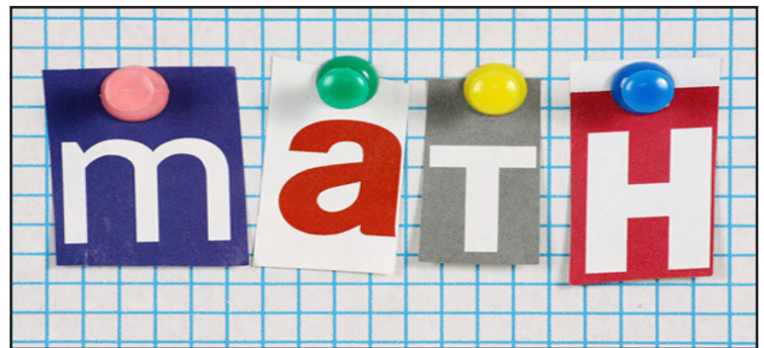
Algebra

Algebra has an action-packed quarter ahead. As always, we are on the move, covering new material daily! Currently, Algebra students are deep into Quadratic Equations and Functions which is covered heavily on the EOC. There is a big push to connect quadratic functions to the real world, so we will look at most quadratic functions in a real-world context. When your child comes home singing the Quadratic Function song, ask them to show you how we use it and to explain its purpose! Besides sickness concerns (of course!), please ensure your child is attending class physically and mentally every day! We move FAST in Algebra, and given our current block schedule, students miss an extreme amount of content each time they are absent!

Geometry

Geometry Honors has been working very diligently. We spent a large portion of the 2nd quarter looking at triangle congruency and we begin the 3rd quarter by applying those concepts within other types of polygons. We will then move on to similarity in triangles and end the 3rd quarter studying trigonometric ratios within triangles.

***Students in Algebra I and Geometry Honors do not take the math FSA on the same schedule as the school. These students take the EOC, which will be given in the beginning of May. More information will be coming.





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Language Arts

6th Grade:

Happy New Year from 6th Grade Language Arts! We are so excited to have so many new faces in our classrooms as students return to us from SCVS and Seminole Connect! Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns you may have so that we can help make this transition as smooth as possible! Students have been working diligently all quarter to prepare for their next Write Score assessment which will take place the first week of February. We can already see such an improvement in students' writing since the beginning of the school year, especially with argumentative writing (which is a brand-new concept for our sixth-grade students)!

Following Write Score, the remainder of the third quarter will be focused on literature concepts including characterization, tone, and comparing and contrasting similar themes between two texts! We will be reading "The First Day of School", a short story about two African American students attending a desegregated school for the first time. In addition, we will be pairing that text with a classic: "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost! Throughout this quarter, students will be challenged to think critically and in more abstract ways than in the first semester. We are so excited to see what our students learn and achieve!

7th Grade

7th graders have been hard at work practicing their writing. We are excited for our students to show what they know on the second Write Score assessment which will be taking place the week of February 1st in their ELA class. Once we finish Write Score we will dive into literature. We will be working on determining the theme, the author's point of view, and the text structure in the stories that we read. We are also looking forward to focusing on dramas, which is typically a favorite in 7th grade!

8th Grade

Hi Eagle families! Here's a sneak peek at all of the latest happenings in the 8th grade Language Arts department. We are so excited to have so many students coming back from SCVS and Seminole Connect. Even more so exciting, we have some new additions to our 8th grade Language Arts team:

Mrs. Metzler: Mrs. Metzler is a Greenwood Lakes teacher who spent the first half of the year working with Seminole County Virtual School (SCVS). We are so excited to have her back at Greenwood Lakes! She makes such a great addition to our team. This semester she is teaching 8th grade Language Arts, as well as, Intensive Reading and a U.S. History class.

Ms. Sapp: Ms. Sapp is our newest addition to our team, and to Greenwood Lakes. She is the other 8th-grade language arts teacher, and we are very delighted to have her and welcome her to the Eagles' Nest.

We have kicked this quarter off reading an informational text called, "Do Juvenile Killers Deserve Life Behind Bars?" Students have been reading and completing "Stop and Jots". Stop and Jots is a strategy that we use to help our students write more detailed summaries, as well as, identifying important key details. These are skills that students practice with every text. Our 8th-grade students will move on to looking at identifying and analyzing text structure, word meanings, as well as, author's point of view. To finish up this unit with this text we will be moving into argumentative writing in preparation for our Write Score text which will happen the **first week of February**.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to GLMS SOARING Eagles Nari Cintron and Olivia Degraff Seminole County Sheriffs 2020 Drug-Free Red Ribbon Art Contest Winners! **You make us PROUD!!**

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Science

6th Grade

6th grade students will be working on how to classify and compare substances on the basis of characteristic physical properties that can be demonstrated or measure; for example, density, thermal or electrical conductivity, solubility, magnetic properties, melting and boiling points. Students will differentiate between the layers of the Earth based on physical properties including the lithosphere. Students will explain the flow of heat within and between the layers of the Earth. Students will also differentiate among radiation, conduction, and convection, the three mechanisms by which heat is transferred through Earth's system.

7th Grade

7th grade Science is in the middle of a Unit on Cells - we'll be "cell"ebrating these important structures by learning how the Cell Theory was developed, the contributions of scientists to its body of evidence, and why it's a theory and not a scientific law. Students will recognize how all organisms undergo similar processes to maintain homeostasis. They will explore the process of photosynthesis, and cellular respiration. Student will cite evidence to explain that energy is not created nor destroyed only transformed from one form to another.

8th Grade

8th Grade will be working on how we measure the age of the Earth and its parts, including the law of Superposition and Radioactive dating. Students will be able to explain and give examples of how physical evidence support scientific theories that Earth has evolved over geologic time due to natural processes. Students will also describe and identify patterns in the hierarchical organizations of organisms. They will describe the general functions of the major system of the human body. (digestive, respiratory, circulatory, reproductive, excretory, immune, nervous, and musculoskeletal)

Social Studies

2021 is off to a fast start across the board for the Social Studies Department at GLMS!

6th Grade

6th grade World History is covering some fan favorites in Q3. They will start off learning about the Israelites, then move into their units covering Ancient Greece and the Roman Republic.

7th Grade

7th grade Civics kicks off Q3 with a unit on the three branches of government, then continues their deep dive into the Constitution with units about amending the Constitution, The Bill of Rights, and other key amendments.

8th Grade

8th grade U.S. History is jumping into the New Year with a unit about the presidencies of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. After learning about the key accomplishments and precedents of Washington and Jefferson, they will move on to studying the Louisiana Purchase, Lewis & Clark, and Westward Expansion.

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PBS Update

Welcome Back SOARing Eagles! We hope you are all ready for a productive 3rd Nine Weeks! The Nest, our PBS school store, has continued to see a lot of student interest at Wednesday lunches. Students love receiving SOAR bucks from their teachers to spend at the store. We are always accepting monetary or item donations (such as school supplies, Rubik's cubes, headphones, phone cases, pop sockets, etc) for The Nest.

6th Grade won the Grade Level Celebration for Quarter 2 for having the least amount of disciplinary infractions. They received a free cookie at lunch in December!

8th Graders should have turned in their forms for the 8th grade dance/field day by January 8th. If your 8th grader has not turned in their form, get it to Ms. Waller or Ms. Fedi ASAP. Connect students can find the form on the PBS eCampus page (GLMS_PBS 20-21) and e-mail the signed form to (Megan_Waller@scps.k12.fl.us) or mail it to the school re: Megan Waller.

Please remind your student that hoods and beanies can be worn outside on campus when the weather is below 50 degrees.

Students should keep masks over their nose and may only remove their mask to eat, while seated, in the cafeteria.

Thank you all for helping us keep GLMS safe! And As Always, Let's SOAR Eagles!

Your GLMS Deans,
Megan Waller and Lauren Fedi

FCA

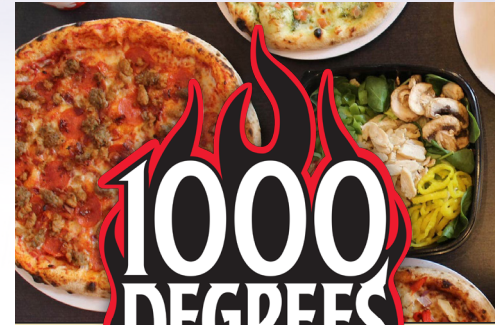
FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) is back at GLMS on Monday mornings from 7:45-8:45am! We meet in front of building 8, then head to where we are playing together (we use the gym, pavilion, field, and outside courts). One of the sponsors try to stay up front to be the welcoming committee a few minutes after in case someone is running a little behind. We have breakfast, play different sports/games, then start each week with a positive message! I can't think of a better way to start the week whether it's playing basketball, volleyball, soccer, one man dodgeball, kick ball, whiffle ball, can jam...then have food and an inspirational speech from our collage representatives. The sponsors this year are Ms. Schlottfeldt & Mrs. Davis. If you have any more questions or want to find out more information, please feel free to reach out to us: Stephanie_schlottfeldt@scps.k12.fl.us / (407) 900-5334 (can accept texts)/Room 8-001, or daviske@scps.k12.fl.us / (407) 320-7685/ Room 4-008. We are still using masks and respecting the rules of social distancing during our meetings. We're looking forward to launching the club again this semester!

GLMS Events Update

Stay updated on GLMS events...

visit the GLMS webpage and click on the Events tab.

www.greenwoodlakes.scps.k12.fl.us



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Reading

The Reading department in grades 6th, 7th and 8th grade completed the I-ready Diagnostic #2 for the year in January 2021. The data from the Diagnostic was shared with your students during a 1:1 data chat with their teacher, and they recorded their scores in their data tracker. Teachers are working with intervention groups to help identify students who need extra help with their iReady lessons. Additionally, both Face-to-Face and Connect students should be tracking their weekly data from iReady in order to work toward their growth goals prior to the next assessment. Overall, iReady scores are improving and we are seeing growth in reading levels. Nice job reading students!

All three grade levels are working on completing lessons in class weekly. Students are expected to complete 46 minutes weekly on I-Ready with a score of 75% or more on lesson(s). Classroom time has been set aside to allow the students enough time to complete their required minutes. If your student is absent, please have them work on their I-Ready lessons at home, when possible.

We greatly encourage you to have your students read for 20 minutes each night. Reading 20 minutes nightly helps build reading stamina which students will find helpful on lengthy FSA reading passages. Whenever possible, have your students share a summary of what they read with you and engage in a dialogue about the ideas in the text they are reading. It is proven that independent reading helps build vocabulary skills. Overall, reading outside of school is a benefit to everyone. Let's read!

Title I

Parents, please visit the GLMS webpage for information on Family Engagement activities, district Parental Involvement opportunities, Florida School grades, and other Title I information. You can also visit the front office to review the Title I Binder which contains the School Improvement Plan (SIP), the Parental Family Engagement Plan (PFEP), the School-Parent Compact, School Report Card, and the Parents' Right to Know.

Be sure to check out the updated Title I Parent and Family Engagement website at www.scps.us/family for information on the Family Resource Center, school-home partnerships, and upcoming family workshops!

State Certified and Licensed Teachers and Paraprofessionals

All Title I schools are required to employ only state certified and licensed teachers and instructional paraprofessionals. If at any time your child is taught by a non-state certified teacher, your school will notify you. In addition, you have the right to:

- Request whether your child's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessional(s) meet the state certification requirements for the grade levels and subject areas in which they provide instruction.
- Request whether a teacher and/or paraprofessional is teaching under emergency or other provisional status where state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- Request information on the baccalaureate degree major of a teacher and/or paraprofessional and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher and/or paraprofessional, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

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From the Office of Student Services

The beginning of a new semester is a great time to schedule a meeting with all of your student's teachers to ensure that he or she is meeting grade-level expectations. Please contact Ms. Desteny Gonzalez to schedule a parent/teacher conference for your child at (407) 320-7606.

Did you know that Seminole County Public Schools offers a wide variety of Magnet and Program of Emphasis Programs for high school students? Crooms Academy of Information Technology, Seminole High School's Academy of Health Careers and Lyman High School's Academy of Engineering are just a few of the fantastic programs available to our students entering high school next year. Please visit the Student Assignment and Program Access website to learn more about each exciting option. <https://www.scps.k12.fl.us/district/departments/assignment-access/>

Please let us know how we can best support you and your student(s)!

Cherish Beacham

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Kimberly Longarzo

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Title 1

From the Office of Student Services