

From the Principal

Hello Eagle Families:

This school year has been like no other! Like most, I typically use November as a time to deeply reflect and say thank you for all that I am grateful for. This November is doubly critical! I am grateful to be the principal of Greenwood Lakes Middle School and to have an opportunity to work alongside of some of the very best students, families, educators and staff in the country for the past 5 years.

I am thankful for our students. They come to class or log in every day and put significant effort into becoming more skilled and knowledgeable citizens. I appreciate their tolerance to technical difficulties and ability to stay focused during the many social and environmental distractions out of their control. They continue to be open to new ideas, new concepts, and new experiences while showing maturity and patience. They come from different circumstances and backgrounds to learn and grow together. That process is not always easy, but they struggle through the difficult moments together, and they celebrate their successes together. I am proud of all our students, and I am blessed to lead their school.

The parents at Greenwood are some of the most engaged and enthusiastic families I have ever worked with. Greenwood is an amazing place because of your support and our effective partnership. Thank you, parents, for your grace and compassion during this difficult time. Your ability to communicate and show the teachers love and tenderness is what keeps us all coming back each day. We can't thank you enough for "asking" questions and not "assuming" the worse with teachers as they navigate this COVID-19 terrane. I invite you to continue to stay active in the educational process by checking Skyward, our website, reading communications sent home or emailed, and participating in school events. Together, our students will succeed! Thank you.

What we do at Greenwood could never be achieved without the dedication of our amazing teachers and staff. They get up each and every morning ready to work, support our students, and give them the tools they need to learn while living in the fear of COVID-19. I have so impressed with the grit of the teachers as they keep the focus on teaching and learning. Teachers truly have made learning possible in almost impossible times while navigating an educational world that has flipped upside down. While the support staff has happily morphed their roles into tackling anything and everything to address parent and student needs. It's amazing to watch each support staff navigate and support student learning like never before. The persistence and initiative exhibited from everyone on this campus from our teachers to our cafeteria staff is uncommon and I appreciate their professionalism to GLMS.

Thank you everyone for your commitment to Greenwood and keeping it a successful school!! 4 Points!!! To all our students, families and staff, I wish you a very meaningful Thanksgiving.

Respectfully, Breezi Erickson, *Principal*



For the Parents, Staff & Community of

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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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

In 6th grade standard, the students will continue to work on Unit 4-Ratios and Proportions and move into learning about Expressions and Equations. Students will have knowledge of ratios, unit rates, percent, and conversions along with coefficients, constants, terms, variables and how to write expressions. Please encourage your child to come to class ready to learn, with their needed supplies and ready to SOAR. Students should be reviewing skills, such as exponents, multiplication, and fractions so that they can be proficient in the 6th grade math standards.

In GEMS, the second 9 week period will focus on 7th and 8th skills such as functions, and equations. The students will continue their Virtual Bridge independent study of geometry. It is important that students complete these assignments as they tie in directly with the higher level standards that are covered in class. The next virtual bridge assignment will cover the 6th grade standards involving ratios, proportions, and percent.

During the second 9 weeks, 7th grade standard math will be working on adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing rational numbers which will lead them into unit rates. Students will then learn how to solve percent problems as well as discuss discounts and rate changes.

During the second 9 weeks, 7th advanced math wrapped up Ratios, Unit Rate, Percent, Tax, Tip, Commission and Simple Interest. We worked diligently on evaluating expressions for missing variables, are currently working on inequalities, and will close the quarter out with slope and functions.

Pre-Algebra classes are working on interpreting linear functions, where they are learning how to construct graphs, data tables, and equations that all work together to represent proportional and non-proportional relationships between the data. Students are learning terms like slope, y-intercept, proportional, non-proportional, unit rate, and function. Understanding linear functions is one of the most important pre-algebra concepts for students to master going into high school.

Algebra 1 students are continuing to deepen their knowledge on linear functions. Linear functions are 1 of 3 types of functions explored this year. They will be looking at similarities and differences of



linear equations and learning how to solve systems of linear equations using any of three methods. Students will finish the quarter by diving into one-variable statistics.

Geometry Honors is moving right along as they look at angle relationships and parallel and perpendicular lines in the coordinate plane. They will translate into looking at how triangles are congruent as well as the attributes and properties of triangles. They will end the quarter

by studying how triangles relate to all polygons, and how understanding triangles will enhance the understanding of all polygons.

MATH STRATEGIES:

Someone said, "A picture is worth a thousand words." Turning the words of a problem into a picture or a diagram can help you "see" the problem. By using the part of your brain that visualizes a situation or object, you may see relationships or information that helps you solve the problem. When someone tells you a story, try turning the words into a motion picture or a cartoon. When reading a description, try "seeing it in your mind's eye." If you can do these things, this strategy may be for you!

Social Studies

We are so happy to have many of our Seminole Connect students back into the physical classroom. Overall, the Social Studies department is working on some wonderful new engagement strategies and discussing topics that most students find very interesting! If you have any questions relating to any of the information below, please contact your student's Social Studies teacher and they will be happy to answer them.

6TH GRADE WORLD HISTORY:

We will be covering many different areas of study for the next few weeks. We will be discussing Ancient China

which has a DBQ with it, Ancient Egypt, and a 9 week exam review. These units help cover the foundations of



Ancient Civilizations as well as applying those foundational pieces of knowledge to different civilizations.

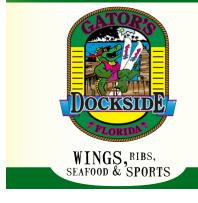
7TH GRADE CIVICS:

We will be covering many units on the foundations and functions of the US government. We will be covering the following topics: The Articles of Confederation and Creating the Constitution as well as a 9 week exam review. These topics follow and guide our discussions for the remainder of the year and are tested on the EOC.

8TH GRADE U.S. HISTORY:

We will be covering many units of study including the following: The American Revolution (with a DBQ) and Forming our government. We will also be completing a 9 week exam review.





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Language Arts

Hello, Eagle Families!

Happy Fall from the ELA Department! We sincerely hope that your family has been having a happy and healthy second quarter. Please read below for messages from our grade level teams:

Sixth Grade Eagles have been working hard in ELA! After completing the Write Score assessment at the beginning of the quarter, students moved into analyzing figurative language and tone in our first poem of the year: "Life Doesn't Frighten Me" by Maya Angelou! Students then read the short story, "My Wonder Horse" in order to analyze plot events and their impact on the structure of the text. Now, students will be transitioning back into informational texts and argumentative writing as we discuss this interesting question: Should exotic animals be allowed to be owned as pets? We cannot wait to hear the wonderful discussions they will be having and critical thinking that they will be doing.

During the first half of the second nine-weeks, **Seventh Grade** students completed the Write Score assessment which takes a deep look at their writing skills and provides them with meaningful feedback to improve their writing. We plan to use this valuable data to help students focus on critical areas in their writing. We will also be looking at Informational texts to help us determine important features such as text structure, figurative language, and author's purpose. Students will practice these skills with a wide variety of texts in anticipation for the second nine-weeks assessment.

In **Eighth Grade**, students will be comparing and contrasting the text structure of two poems: "I Hear America Singing" and "I, Too, Sing America". Students will then be continuing their study of poetic concepts by focusing on point of view while reading "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe. Students will be continuing to look at informational texts in addition to these poems in order to prepare them for what they will see on their second nine-weeks exam.

As we approach the holidays and the end of the second quarter, please encourage your student to reach out to their teacher if they have any questions or concerns. We are here to help and want to see your child succeed! Happy Thanksgiving!

Science

6th Grade students will be exploring the scientific theory of atoms by recognizing that atoms are the smallest unit of an element and are composed of subatomic particles. They will use models to explain the motion of particles in solids, liquids, and gases.

7th Grade students will be distinguishing the hierarchical relationships between planets and other astronomical bodies relative to solar system, galaxy, and universe, including distance, size, and composition. They will also recognize that the universe contains many billions of galaxies and that each galaxy contains many billions of stars. Students will need to be a to describe and classify specific physical properties of stars: apparent magnitude (brightness), temperature (color), size and luminosity (absolute brightness). They will create models of solar properties including rotation, structure of the Sun, convection, sunspots, solar flares, and prominences.

8th Grade science students will differentiate and show interactions among the geosphere (lithosphere), hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere. Students will also describe how the composition and structure of the atmosphere protects life and insulates the planet.

All advance science classes will be having a digital science fair in the month of December.

Reading

The Reading department in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade just finished the i-Ready Growth Monitoring. The data from i-Ready has been shared with your students and their scores have been recorded in their data tracker. Additionally, both Face-to-Face and Connect students should be tracking their scores and data weekly in their i-Ready trackers and looking at their data with their teachers.

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

We highly 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. Also, it is proven that independent reading helps build vocabulary skills. Overall, reading outside of school is a benefit to everyone. Let's read!

Tim Tiralosi, D.M.D.

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Dear Eagles Families and Friends,

Happy Fall! As we enter into the Holiday Season, PTSA is needing your help! Fundraising will be very different this year due to Covid-19. A way to always help is Amazon Smile! Please add this link to your account (smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2717120). Proceeds will generate donations for GLMS PTSA.

During the month of November, we are holding a Shoe Drive through GotSneakers, a sneaker recycling organization. Please donate new, gently used, and used shoes. A collection bin will be in the front office. Up to \$3 per shoe will be compensated for every wearable athletic sneaker and \$.25 per used athletic sneakers and cleats. Everything will help our school and our Planet!

Parent, Student, Grandparents, Faculty and Staff Memberships are available for \$7 on our website (greenwoodlakes.new.memberhub.store). We also have Spirit Wear (shirts, masks, hoodies) on the store site as well.

BUSINESS PARTNERS NEEDED!

Are you a business looking to advertise? Contact greenwoodlakesmiddleptsa@gmail. com for more information.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Make sure to follow us on Social Media

- Facebook Group (GreenwoodLakesMiddlePTSA)
- Instagram
- Twitter (@GLMSPTSA)

We appreciate your constant assistance and support!

As always, SOAR Eagles! 2020-2021 PTSA Board



Would you like to join our PTSA email list?



everychild.onevoice.®

This year we would love to add some extras for students and staff if wwe can but we can't do it without helping hands. To get in on our communications of what we're doing and planning or how you can help, join our mailing list to step in when or where you may be able to.



To be added, please email GreenwoodLakesMiddlePTSA@gmail.com





PBS

Hello SOARing Eagles! As always, The Nest, our PBS school store, continues to see a lot of student interest at Wednesday lunches! Students love spending their hard-earned SOAR bucks from their teachers on school supplies, snacks, toys and games, headphones, and other items. We are always accepting monetary or item donations for The Nest!

Congratulations to our September and October Student and Teacher of the month! GLMS September Students of the Month: Ricardo Godoy (8th grade), Namilianys Seda (7th grade), and Caden Gransee (6th grade). GLMS September Teacher of the Month was Ms. Maloy. GLMS October Students of the Month: Riley Garrett (8th grade), Lexi Lundy (7th grade), and Jasmine Sackllah (6th grade). GLMS October Teacher of the Month was Mrs. Stephens. We are so proud of our teachers and students going above and beyond GLMS expectations!

Thank you so much for everyone that participated in our Red Ribbon week events during the week of October 19th – 23rd! The PBS team was pleased to see so many students dressed up in orange for Unity Day on October 21st. GLMS Unity Day's theme this year was "Every Step You Take Matters". Students turned in a completed pledge from their 3rd period class for the how they plan to step up to end bullying at Greenwood! These "step" pledges were hung on the Unity Banner at lunches. Remember, any student or adult can report a concern or issue to any adult on campus, either dean, or through the P3 Campus app or the Speakout Hotline.

We hope you have a strong finish to Quarter 2!

And As Always, Let's SOAR Eagles! Your GLMS Deans, Lauren Fedi and Megan Waller

Performing Arts

The GLMS Performing Arts Department is very excited to put on a Virtual Winter Concert on Thursday, December 10th at 6:00PM. Our video will go live on YouTube at this time, and we will also have an opportunity for an inperson socially distant viewing party! Please stay tuned for updates on how to get involved with this!

Chorus and Band will be recording after school on the below days/times. This is an opportunity to Face2Face AND Connect students to participate and make music together. Please look out for emails and permission slips in the near future and keep these dates in your calendar!

- Tuesday, December 1st Chorus Filming Day, 5:00PM, LMHS Auditorium
- Monday, December 7th Band Filming Day, 5:00PM, LMHS Auditorium
- Thursday, December 10th Virtual Winter Concert, 6:00PM, Potential Viewing Party @ GLMS



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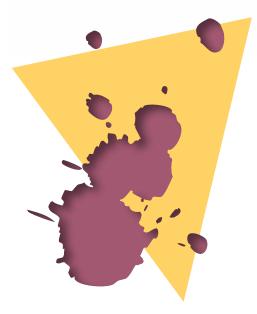
myENTdoctor.com

Forensic Science

We have had a great 1st quarter in Forensic Science! Students are investigating a mysterious case unfolding in a small town. So far, they have analyzed impressions, blood spatter, documents, and fingerprints that were left at the scene. They have one semester to use deductive reasoning skills to solve the case.

Connect students are participating in labs using everyday household supplies. Alternate assignments are available, so you will not have buy anything. Face to face students are logging in to the Live class to work on collaborative assignments with the Connect students. Office hours are now available Mondays from 8:30 - 9:00am. Connect students may log in to the live class for extra help during this time. I'm looking forward to a great year!







Title I News

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

With Thanksgiving upon us, now is a great time to incorporate gratitude into our daily lives. While it may be more difficult than ever before to see the bright side of things, it is important to incorporate as much positivity in your life when experiencing challenging events. Many families discuss what they are thankful for as a Thanksgiving ritual. This year, consider continuing the discussion beyond the holiday season. Try a quick "I am grateful for..." at the dinner table or the ride home from school or create a family poster board/dry erase board that family members can add to as the year goes on. Not only does it help everyone involved focus on what is going well, but it also teaches our kids to reframe negative thoughts...a necessary and beneficial life skill! The following link is an article to a great read from Advent Health on the benefits of gratitude: https://www.adventhealth.com/blog/why-gratitude-important-during-coronavirus-pandemic#:~:text=The%20practice%20of%20gratitude%20can,risk%20for%20mental%20 health%20issues.

The Office of Student Services provide academic, career and social/emotional support to students. Please contact your student's School Counselor at any time if you or your student needs assistance.

Counselors

Cherish Beacham

School Counselor 6th-8th ESOL/504 students 7th-8th General Ed students (407)320-7607 BeachaCo@scps.k12.fl.us

Kimberly Longarzo

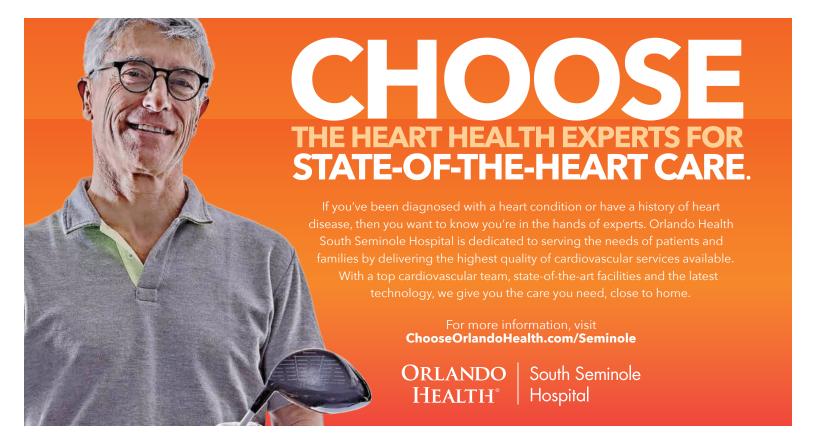
School Counselor 6th-8th ESE students 6th grade General Ed students (407) 320-7650 Kimberly_Longarzo@scps.k12.fl.us



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Current Resident or/

FCA

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) began on November 9 and will meet every Monday from 7:45 - 8:45am! Meetings will be announced weekly since we are sharing the gym with seasonal sports. We will always meet in front of Building 8 and then move to the gym, 3-009, or the pavilion (one of the sponsors will stay up front in case you are running a little behind). 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.

Masks are REQUIRED for participation and we are still respecting all social distancing guidelines during our meetings. We're looking forward to launching the club again this school year!





Track Schedule

The Track season is under way! Please come out and support the GLMS Track Team! We hope to see you there!

- Nov 4 @ GLMS
- Nov 11 @ Teague
- Nov 18 @ Galileo
- Dec 2 @ GLMS
- Dec 12 County Meet Hagerty HS @ 8AM