

WOOD POST



NOVEMBER 2019

Volume 15 Issue 2

For the Parents, Students
& Community of

**Markham Woods
Middle School**

**6003 Markham Woods Road
Lake Mary, FL 32746**

Phone 407-871-1750

Administration

**Linda Mumey
Principal**

**Michael Cush
Assistant Principal**

**Chuck Bennett
Assistant Principal**

**Dana Richardson
Assistant Principal**

**Rosie Jaya
School Administrative Manager**



www.scps.k12.fl.us
400 E. Lake Mary Blvd.
Sanford, FL 32773

Message from Assistant Principal

We are now full swing into the 2019-2020 school year. Students have finished up their 9 week exams and teachers are adjusting their classroom instruction to help fill in gaps and reinforce key material. Our boys and girls volleyball teams have concluded their seasons and cross country has begun training for upcoming meets. Also underway is our performing arts programs. Performing arts students have been working hard throughout the first quarter and will begin showcasing their talents on campus and throughout the community through the holiday season. The Drama production will be showcased later this month, and keep a look out for seasonal presentation dates from Chorus and Band.

Throughout the beginning of the school year we have been meeting monthly with our School Advisory Committee (SAC). The Advisory Committee is a group of parents, teachers and community members that meet each month with Mrs. Mumey to review our School Improvement Plan and work together towards identifying ways the school can better support students, staff, or the community. This process is part of our constant efforts to improve and ensure every family has opportunities to connect with Markham and that every student leaves Markham Woods with the skills necessary to prepare them for high school and beyond. While voting members are already selected for the 2019-20 school year, any member of the community is invited to join us if they are interested in learning more about the School Advisory Committee or our path of improvement. Meetings are scheduled on the third Wednesday of every month from 8 - 9 am. Please reach out to the front desk if you are interested in attending to make sure there have been no adjustments to the schedule.

I share the information about our SAC team and School Improvement Plan because as we continually work with school stakeholders as well as review our data, we have added some upcoming opportunities for both student academic support as well as community interaction.

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A Word from Discipline

A Note From Discipline

The first quarter of the school year has gotten off to a great start. The majority of our students (more than 98%) are wearing their IDs on a daily basis. It is such a joy to watch entire bus loads of students exit the bus with their IDs on ready to come through our daily ID checkpoint. IDs need to be worn on a lanyard or pin above the waist and visible at all times. If your child does not have a lanyard, they are available for purchase in the school store. The school store is open during all three lunches every Monday and Friday and the cost for the lanyard is \$1.00.

Students have also been following our new cell phone policy. The policy allows students to use their phones before school, in the cafe, and after school once they exit the double doors. Cell phone use in the classroom is at the discretion of the teacher. Cell phones are not permitted during transitions. Limiting cell phone use on campus has resulted in more students making it to class on time. Additionally, students are actually talking with each other rather than having their faces down looking at their phones as they move to their next class. That's a win-win.

A growing area of concern on campus is students' misuse of their lanyards. Students are not permitted to engage in any type of horseplay, including striking each other with their lanyards. This behavior will result in a disciplinary referral and consequence. Please discuss this with your child. The discipline department will be addressing it with the students as well.

Thank you for your continued support of the discipline department.

The Dean Team

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After School Tutoring Available

With first quarter grades finalized, we have organized some after school tutoring opportunities for students in need of more assistance. We have enlisted the help of Lake Mary High School students as well as our National Junior Honors Society after school, and in conjunction with content area teachers will be offering tutoring every Tuesday and Thursday from 4 - 5:30 in the "Collaboratory" (previously Learning Center 2). Math will be the main focus of tutoring, but students struggling in any subject area are urged to attend.

TUTORING				
Tutoring & Support	Day	Time	Location	Sponsor(s)
Algebra 1 Honors and 8th Grade Pre-Algebra	Monday-Friday	8:30am	4-218	Mr. Skodnik
Math-All Levels/All Grades from Lake Mary HS National Honor Society Students	Tuesday & Thursday	4:00pm	COLaboratory /LC2	Mr. Robinson
6 th Grade Math Tutoring	Thursday	4:00pm	2-215	Ms. Barton
Core Subject Tutoring by our NJHS students *Must have below a C average	Thursday	4:00pm	Media Center	Mr. Nell

*Please note, morning tutoring requires a pass from the sponsor.



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Veterans Day

Our Veterans Day Ceremony was held on November 11th. People from all around the Heathrow and Sanford community came out to honor our local Veterans from the Markham Woods Community in our amphitheater. After the ceremony, our Veterans enjoyed a catered brunch sponsored by Salata and our school restaurant. Thank you to the community for coming out and joining us, and thank you to our Veterans for your service!

Lake Mary Field Trip (Zoned Students Only) February 7, 2020

Lake Mary High School will provide and tour for students who are zoned for Lake Mary High on Friday, February 7, 2020. Zoned students will be bused to Lake Mary for the day, where they will have the opportunity to experience Ram Nation live. Apologies in advance that those who wish to, or will, transfer will not be able to ride the bus to the event, as space is limited. Permission slip forms will be provided to zoned students at the end of January.



Creative Writing

In Creative Writing we've been focusing on Figurative Language, using strong word choice and eliminating dead verbs. We've been refreshing on use of punctuation and capitalization as well. Within the next few months we will be completing a Career Project and a "All About Me Poster". Currently, the students are working on their PTA Reflection Writing Piece and will soon be moving on to "Mythological Hero Saves the Day and a "Fairy Tale Newspaper Article". It's hard to believe that our time together is quickly coming to an end. I have thoroughly enjoyed our time together and will miss them come January.



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Special Agent Kevin Kaufman is a 15 year veteran of the Federal Bureau of Investigations. During his tenure he has worked in various violations to include: violent crimes, public corruption, health care, international terrorism, and violent crimes against children. He is currently assigned to the Orlando Resident Agency Violent Crimes Against Children Task Force. Prior to the FBI, SA Kaufman worked as a San Diego Police Officer as well as worked with troubled youth at the San Diego Probation Department. He is a graduate of San Diego State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's Degree in Public Administration

Guidance Department

Semester 2 Course Request Changes

Beginning December 2, 2019, students will be able to request changes for their second semester elective courses. Students may make requests from December 2nd until December 22nd by completing a Course Request Change Form and returning it to Guidance or the Course Request Change Form box located in the school's cafeteria. Changes for elective courses are based on space available.

- Magnet Middle School and High School Magnet/Programs Application Period October 1 - December 1, 2020

The 2019-2020 Magnet middle and high school choice application period is October 1 to December 1, 2016. Students interested in a magnet school choice should apply no later than the December 1 deadline to be included in the "on-time" random selection.

Student Transfer Options Application Period February 1 - April 1, 2020 The SCPS Choices Department will accept transfer requests for the 2019-2020 school year through an online application process. The application period will begin on February 1, 2019. The website for submitting applications online is: <https://www.seminoleschoolchoicesapplication.us/apply/>.



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Science Department

Markham Woods Middle Lake Mary, FL -----Mr. Doug Smith's 6th grade science classes enjoyed a day of learning with University of Florida scientist Sean Moran.

Moran, the scientist is with UF's Department of Geological Sciences with a focus on vertebrate paleoecological changes.

The students studied the teeth of prehistoric horses. The day's focus was on horse evolution and spending time observing 3D prints of fossil horse teeth.

Smith was one of the participants of the Scientist in Every Florida School workshop in July.

The Thompson Earth Systems Institute (TESI) was established in October 2018, and awarded funding in 2019 for the moonshot initiative: Scientist in Every Florida School (SEFS).

Mission: Through this free program, our mission is to build long-term collaborative relationships between teachers and scientists, to better integrate current scientific research and big data into classroom lessons that adhere to Florida Sunshine State Standards; and in so doing, will connect a scientist with every Florida school in the state.

We were thrilled to see so many of you at the Mustang Curriculum Fair in November. Thank you all so much for taking the time to stop by the Black Box Theater to visit our "science center". We were happy to have the opportunity to share many of the exciting things students have been, and will be, participating in this year during their science classes. We hoped you enjoyed seeing the mangrove restoration partnership project with the University of Central Florida that many of our 7th grade life science & high school Ecology classes are taking part in, our speed tracking race course, the forces exploration area, Bernoulli's levitating table, the virtual reality that is used in our science courses, one of the two inflatable science review houses, and the other lab activities and review games that are common to see in the science classrooms here at Markham Woods. We hope that you had as much fun as we did and look forward to seeing you again next year!



Study Island is a great tool that we use at all grade levels to review what the students learned in Science in previous grades as well as reviewing for SSA. Students are accessing it during Science class and should also be using it at home. Website: studyisland.com. Login: ID#@mkms Password: same as logging in at school. There are also modules in reading and math, which are good review for your child for SSA.

Sixth grade just finished studying the classification of living things on Earth into domains and kingdoms. This classification knowledge will be important as students move through 7th and 8th grade and learn about the different types of cells and processes that are needful for internal balance to be maintained. Take a minute to ask your child about their classification activities.

Seventh grade has finished studying Earth's cycles such as the water cycle and atmospheric conditions. Ask your child about the "Green Island Project" and how they balanced the wants and needs of a small human population and their impact on the environment.

Eighth grade has finished studying the interactions of Earth's spheres such as the hydrosphere, biosphere, geosphere, and atmosphere. This is a culmination unit of pieces that were learned in 6th and 7th grade and ties together many concepts such as weather, erosion, plate tectonics, and more. We are preparing to begin our study of fossils, geology, and changes in populations. Ask your student about how these spheres interact to allow life on Earth to exist.



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ESE Department

The holidays are just around the corner and with that comes some much-needed time off! Teachers and students alike appreciate this time to refresh, enjoy time with friends and family, and maybe even catch up on binge-watching a favorite show on Netflix.

During this time off, it's easy for students to lose the momentum that teachers have worked hard to build up. Coming back to school after the holiday breaks can be almost like starting school all over again. Here are some tips to help keep a little momentum going and make coming back from holiday breaks a little easier.

Maintain a similar schedule

- Now this doesn't mean you have to get up so early every single day, but it helps if you don't sleep until noon! Getting up and having a routine is more beneficial than lounging around all day. When I'm not working, I actually still get up at the same time, eat breakfast, and work on some writing or take a walk which keeps my mind and body alert.

Study with friends

- Getting together with friends during school breaks is a great idea! You can have fun, maybe hang out at the mall and go shopping or see a movie. You could also spend a little time studying or doing some homework together. Studying in a small group or with a friend is a great way to socialize and still get some learning done at the same time.

Read a little bit every day, various subjects – it doesn't have to be about schoolwork.

- Maybe you don't have any homework or studying over break, but it's a good habit to still engage in some silent reading every day. I try to read about an hour a day, but getting in at least 20 minutes is an excellent habit to build. You don't have to read about school-related topics, you can read about anything that interests you, just make sure to get a little reading time in daily! If you really want to challenge yourself, select a topic unfamiliar to you – something you wouldn't normally read about.

Engage in your online activities, like Khan Academy and iReady.

- If you have internet access at home, you can spend some time working on math and reading skills through online resources like Khan Academy or iReady. Just like with silent reading, spending 20 minutes a day working on these interactive sites will help keep your brain sharp!

Reward yourself!

- Don't make your entire week off about work! Reward yourself for setting and reaching small goals. If you tell yourself you will spend 20 minutes reading, and then 20 minutes on Khan Academy, and you do it, then reward yourself with taking a break. Maybe watch one of your favorite shows or make a tasty snack. You deserve it!

Hopefully by following some of these tips you can make the most of your time off – have fun and get a little work done at the same time. I hope everyone enjoys their break and we'll see you after vacation, well-rested and ready to learn!

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Math Department

The second quarter has now begun, the Math Department is looking forward to helping all students complete another successful quarter.

Please ensure you are checking in on Skyward weekly, reviewing the E-Campus page(s) for your child's math class (textbook, syllabus, and class information should be posted here), and check that your child is writing their homework and important dates in their planner daily.

If your student is in an 8th grade math course, they should be working on Khan Academy at least 30 minutes a week. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have a question about the use or grading of Khan Academy.

Math tutoring for all levels is available in our brand new Collaboratory on Tuesdays and Thursday after school from 4:00-5:15. Please check it out and make the most of this new opportunity!

If you have concerns, in any subject area, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible. If you would like to schedule a conference, please contact Mrs. Pichardo in the guidance office at 407-871-1724.

Please encourage your child to be reviewing classwork and notes daily in preparation for 2nd nine week exams, weekly quizzes/tests, and the upcoming FSA.



Club	Meeting Day(s)	Time	Location	Sponsor(s)
Newspaper	Monday & Thursday	8:30am	2-010A	Ms. Barth
FCA	Tuesday	8:00am	Gym	Coach Owens, Ms. Hamilton
Anime	Tuesday	B Lunch Only	2-009	Ms. Carter
Chess	Tuesday	4:00pm	2-201	Ms. Childers, Mr. Smith
SECME	Tuesday & Thursday	4:00pm	3-201	Ms. Casselman
Mu Alpha Theta	Wednesday	8:00am	4-210	Ms. Mathews
Board Games	Thursday	4:00pm	4-010/LC4	Mr. Puccio
Math Counts	Thursday	8:15am	3-212	Ms. Bennett/Ms. Michola
Art (Currently full... see Mrs. Gendron for waiting list)	Friday	8:20am	3-007	Ms. Gendron
Read to Feed	Days vary	Times vary	2-005	See Ms. Suecof for details

*Please note, all morning clubs require a morning pass from the sponsor.

**All sponsors are volunteers and all clubs and programs are offered outside of official school times 9:20-3:55pm

Markham Mentor Program

The Markham Middle School Mentor Program is seeking dividends interested in volunteering to mentor one of our Mustangs. This program matches skilled volunteers with the specific needs of selected students.

Mentors will receive training and will work with a student on the school premises for a minimum of one hour per week. Mentors will work on motivating, listening, encouraging, tutoring, setting goals and serving as a role model. The student/mentor match is a joint effort requiring commitment from the student, teacher, school family and the volunteer.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or you would like more information, please contact Mrs. Lisa West at lisa_west@scps.k12.fl.us.

Living on my Own

On Wednesday, December 4th, students enrolled in the Business Management & Life Skills class will have an opportunity to live like an adult at the Living on my Own event.

The Living on My Own is a hands-on, real-life simulation that gives students the opportunity to experience their futures in a fun and exciting way. They are encouraged to make smart lifestyle choices similar to those that adults face on a daily basis. During the simulation, students will assume they're 25 years old and the primary income of their household. They will be given a card at random that tells them their monthly gross income, occupation, if they're married or single and how many kids they have. Using sample checks and a fake debit card, they learn how to record and manage their bank accounts. There is a total of 10 stations they will have to visit. At each station they will have to make choices and decide what they can afford / what they need. After each spending decision students will write a check or use their debit card and subtract the amount from their registers.

If you're interested in volunteering please email lisa_west@scps.k12.fl.us.



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To Addressee or Current Resident



Physical Education

It is hard to believe that we are now beginning the second nine weeks and the cooler weather is finally here! Please help us dress students appropriately for the colder weather. Students can dress in sweatshirts/jackets and sweat pants in cold weather. One exception is the department does not allow spandex leggings in class. If it is extremely cold, we all stay in the gym together. As always, the physical education department sells PE uniforms with T-shirts costing \$8.00 and shorts costing \$12.00 for those that have a need! Go Mustangs!!!

ELA Winter 2020

All of our ELA classes have been participating in our district's Write Score program. Students will write argumentative essays and receive guided feedback from Write Score to improve their argumentative writing. This is Markham's first year with the program, which is replacing our previous district writing assessment. Students responded favorably to the prompts. Results should arrive in the next few weeks, so be on the look-out for communication from your student's ELA teacher. Students will participate in a second Write Score assessment in January.

Band

This has been a truly outstanding semester for the Markham Woods Band Program! I strongly encourage you to visit our band website at www.markhamwoodsband.org for everything band related. There you find the band handbook, calendar, concert / event information, and many other useful tools to help keep you informed as the year unfolds. Beginning band is off to a great start this year, and I can't wait to see the progress we make by the end of the year performance! Our returning students are focusing a great deal on fundamental sound production, scales, and learning new music.

We would also like to congratulate three of our band students for being selected to participate in the 2020 All-State band! This is an amazing accomplishment for these students.

I am so fortunate to be working with such great students, and I know this will be an incredible year for the Mustang Band!

Musically,

Mr. Slone

Director of Bands