



News

Spruce Creek High School

& Views

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL SPARGER

Welcome to the **2024/2025 school year**! A new school year is always exciting and a chance to renew a commitment to academic excellence. This year we celebrate our **50th graduating class** and a **school grade of "A"**. We look forward to a great year as we prepare to **"Empower a Culture of Excellence"**. A special welcome to our newest Hawks, the **Class of 2028**!

Interested in purchasing **Creek apparel**? Go to sprucecreekhigh.com for a variety of Creek products to ship directly to your home – from shirts, shorts, hats, cups, to stickers. This apparel store also offers items for **Creek Alumni** that can be customized to the year of your graduation. We are so thankful to those individuals that have laid the foundation of success for our school. What began here 50 years ago has blossomed into a **Nationally Recognized School of Excellence** as a result of its commitment to academics, the arts, and athletics. To celebrate this milestone, a dedicated group of alumni have created **Back to the Nest**, a non-profit organization committed to raising money for Creek students. Follow **Back to the Nest** on **Facebook** or contact them at classchs@gmail.com to offer your assistance.

It is important to remember to **maintain good attendance at school** and stay involved, **#EverybodyEveryday**:

- Your children can suffer academically if they miss **10 percent of the school year** or about 18 days. That can be just **one day every two weeks** and can happen before you know it.
- Some absences are unavoidable. We understand that children will get sick and need to stay home occasionally. The important thing is to **get your children to school as often as possible**.
- **Sporadic absences**, not just those on consecutive days of school, matter. Before you know it– just one or two days a month can add up to nearly 10 percent of the school year.
- If too many absences occur, it is a problem whether they are excused or unexcused because they represent too much lost learning time in the classroom.
- **Driver's licenses** will be revoked if students have **15 unexcused absences** (excluding out-of-school suspension) in a period of **90 calendar days**.
- Each evening, **phone messages are sent home indicating that your student has missed one or more class periods**. Reach out to Ms. Johnson for ideas on improving your student's attendance.
- Track your **student's attendance and grades in Parent Portal**. Contact Ms. J Wiggins to establish your account.

If you have not done so already, please return your student's **Emergency Information Form**. This form was distributed during your student's **second period class** and is to be completed and returned each school year. Please note that **only those individuals listed on the emergency card will be allowed to sign a student out of school**. Weekly messages will go home from the school as phone, email and text messages. If you are not receiving those messages, please contact Ms. Miller to update.

To stay informed with events on campus, you are encouraged to frequently visit our school's **website** at sprucecreekhigh.com. The website is updated regularly and has links to our **daily announcements**, **teacher's email addresses**, and **activities calendar**. Follow us on social media: **@GreatDay2BAHawk** and **sprucecreekhighhawks**.

Join us for **Open House on Wednesday, September 25 at 6pm** in your student's **first period class**. The **club/sport expo** will begin at **5pm**. Looking forward to a great school year and remember that **"Today, as every day, is a GREAT day to be a Hawk."**



Helpful Contacts:

Ms. Johnson: mwjohns1@volusia.k12.fl.us | Ms. Wiggins: jcwiggin@volusia.k12.fl.us and ext. 37814 | Ms. Miller: mamille1@volusia.k12.fl.us



NOMINATION FORM for Creek's 2024-2025 DISTINGUISHED AWARDS

The honor I would like to bestow upon said nominee is (circle one):

◇ Distinguished ALUMNUS/ALUMNA ◇

◇ Distinguished FACULTY ◇

◇ Distinguished HAWK SUPPORTER ◇

Deadline: September 06, 2024

POSTMARKED: SEPTEMBER 06, 2024

Go Hawks!

Name of NOMINEE _____

Graduating Class of Nominee _____ Years teacher/supporter associated at Creek _____ - _____

Email _____ PHONE _____

Address _____

Name of NOMINATOR _____

Email _____ PHONE _____

Address _____

Reasons this person is worthy of the Distinguished Award. Add additional pages if needed.

Signature of Nominator _____ Date _____

Send to Deborah Keith, 801 Taylor Road, Port Orange, FL 32127 or DeborahKeith24@gmail.com

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AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT NOTE from Ms. Batten & Dr. Sparger:

Hello Hawks,

It is **essential** to check your **vcs2go.net** email account **daily**.

Your teachers, administration, and testing coordinator use this communication method to **give you important updates and information**. Checking your vcs2go.net email daily will allow you to keep current with school events, clubs, sports, and essential testing information you may need.

Please check your email daily.

It's a GREAT day to be a Hawk!

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Papillon Dance Team

The new 2024-2025 school year has already brought fun and exciting plans for the Papillon Dance Team here at Spruce Creek High School. The week of July 29th - August 2nd, Papillon had our Annual Summer Dance Camp to prepare for this upcoming school year. The dance camp was a week-long intensive focusing on 3 dances: Homecoming Pep-Rally dance, Homecoming Football Half-Time dance, and our Young Dancers Workshop dance in Gainesville. Along with all the dances, the week was also filled with important team bonding activities for our 11 veteran dancers and our 7 first-year teammates.

Papillon Dance Team's relationship with one another is crucial in order to create cohesive and eminent dances throughout the year. Trust and comfort are crucial elements for team bonding moments. While at Dance Camp, the team had a scavenger hunt, played trivia, listened to a team-building talk, and had a lip sync battle. Papillon Dance Team tradition is to form close partnerships between new dances and veterans, creating lasting big/little duos. The big sister is a veteran of the dance team and the little sister is a first-year dancer. This bond gives new teammates a chance to be welcomed and make friends quickly, as well as providing any assistance that might be necessary.

This new year is filled with tons of exciting moments and performances for the Papillon Dance Team; we can't wait! Our first performance this school year will be on Thursday, October 3rd, during the Homecoming Football Game Pep-Rally, seventh period. There will be another performance the following day, October 4th, at the Homecoming Varsity Football Game. We are so excited to see what this upcoming school year brings for the Papillon Dance Team!

-Riley Jones, Papillon Secretary
C/O 2026

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Spruce Creek High School
Volusia County School Board
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Asian Association

The Asian Association of Spruce Creek High School by President Tori Huynh

Welcome back to SCHS's 2024-2025 school year!

This club offers opportunities to learn about different Asian countries, including the culture, history, landscape, cuisine (a club favorite), and so much more. We are always welcoming new and returning members throughout the year, as we are an inclusive community, and hope to see you at our monthly meetings. Our goal as a club is to share the history and culture of different Asian countries in the hopes of deepening our cultural understanding, opening our minds to different experiences, staying true to our motto this year, "Keep an Open Mind and Share Knowledge!"

Officers for the 2024-2025 school year include: Tori Huynh (President), Dev Patel (Vice President), Rucker Feezor (Secretary), Yan Yi Chen (Treasurer), Nancy Lin (Historian), Dylan Tran (Service Chair), and Dylan Kwong and Katherine Whalen (Representatives). Mrs. Deborah Keith and Mr. Nick Schafer are our advisers. Our meetings are held during lunch on the second Thursdays of the month in room C-09. Follow us on social media at @asianassociation_sc and join our Remind by texting @ creekaa to 81010 to stay connected. Our club dues are \$15 and you can pay at osp.osmsinc.com/Volusia by selecting Spruce Creek High.



Theatre Troupe

TROUPE 2461

We are excited to welcome students back to theatre and are working on our season announcement. We have started the year in a temporary location while the auditorium is completing a renovation to upgrade the air conditioning system. On June 1st, we attended the The Applause Awards at the Dr. Phillips Centre and were thrilled to be honored with The Community Engagement Award and Libby McDonald (Class of 2024) was awarded a \$1500 scholarship.

Our first theatre club meeting was on August 23rd and our next meeting will be September 6th and meetings take place during lunch in G1 (until we return to the auditorium), every other Friday. The club is open to all students, so please feel free to attend. Remember, theatre is not just for performers. Our excellent productions and club need the help of students with a variety of skills, including non-performing roles. Dues for the year are \$20 and can be paid online. Members will receive a theatre club t-shirt.

We are looking forward to a great year and celebrating our 50th Anniversary!

Break a leg!

Troupe 2461

Mrs. Cicciarelli + Mr. Molitor

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JROTC

Welcome Back, Hawks!

The Hawk Battalion is excited to kick off another action-packed year. We bid farewell to our graduates and warmly welcome our new cadets to the Hawk Battalion family. Before the summer break, the Hawk Battalion had the honor of presenting the Colors

at the Spruce Creek High School 2024 graduation and Senior Awards ceremony. Our Color Guard took center stage, capturing the attention of thousands. We extend our gratitude to these cadets for their dedication and outstanding performance.

In August, our cadets focused on writing their annual Goals Essays, reflecting on why they joined JROTC and what they aim to achieve in the program. Each class engaged in discussions about the program's benefits and a rubric to help them craft their essays. Throughout the month, we reissued uniforms for our returning cadets. Early this month, our returning cadets will once again be proudly wearing their uniforms. Our new cadets will be sized for their uniforms, symbolizing their official entry into the Hawk Battalion. These uniforms are a testament to our pride and unity.

Here's to another fantastic year, in the mighty Hawk Battalion!

HOOAH!

Thank you for your time

-Maugeri, Jonathan

HOOAH!



Soccer Tryouts

Boys and girls soccer tryouts will take place on Spruce Creek campus, October 14-16. Prior to tryouts, parents and students should go to www.sprucecreekhigh.com and then to the "Athletics" page. After selecting "Athletic Clearance," follow the instructions to complete and upload the necessary paperwork. NHFS videos are available and must be completed, including uploading certificates. Please email Keith Costner at krcostne@volusia.k12.fl.us if you have any questions about tryouts.



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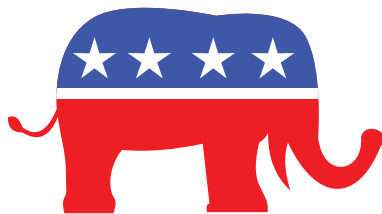


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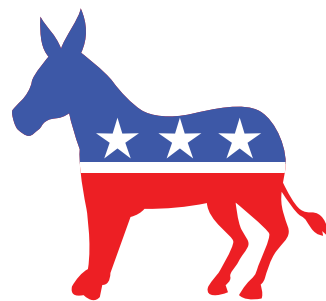
This summer, our members were very active across the community, ensuring that small government and pro-family values are upheld in Volusia County. On July 21st, five members of the Spruce Creek High School Young Republicans Club served as volunteers for the annual Lincoln Day Dinner held at the Ocean Center. Matthew Sanders, Benjamin Kim, Pujan Patel, Quinn Daly, and Kiera Myers were all in attendance. As volunteers, they set tables with programs, and guided guests to their assigned tables. Republican leader Kim Short said about our club, "...thank you to all the volunteers, especially the SCHS Young Republicans, who made this event possible. I love seeing youth involved, and so many terrific people from across the community come together." The Lincoln Day Dinner was a success and our volunteers were able to meet and take pictures with Florida Senator Rick Scott, as well as Congressmen Cory Mills and Michael Waltz.

We are moving into fall with a new slate of officers: Jeremiah Belinsky (President), Nathan Winkvist (Vice President), Micah Morrisett (Secretary), Kyle Pultz (Treasurer), Kiera Myers (Historian), Benjamin Kim (Service Chair), Matthew Sanders (Community Chair), Pujan Patel (Webmaster), and Gavin Getgen (Club Representative). One of our main projects during the year is Wreaths Across America. If you are interested in helping to place a wreath on the grave of a veteran on the second Saturday in December, you have the option to buy a \$17 wreath and/or attend the ceremony of laying that wreath on a veteran's gravestone in Edgewater on December 14th. Any questions? Contact adviser Mrs. Keith (DeborahKeith24@gmail.com) or YRC President Jeremiah Belinsky (jpbelinsky08@gmail.com).

YOUNG DEMOCRATS CLUB

Hello Hawks!

In this important year, the Spruce Creek Young Democrats are determined to get young people interested and caring about politics! This fall, we are planning an outreach to the entire school in order to help educate and organize young people so that their voices will be heard. If you are interested in learning and being involved, please join us at our general meeting on Wednesday, August 28th at C-11. At this meeting, we will discuss the blueprint of both our club and the Democratic Party. Snacks will be provided. Florida's voter registration deadline is Monday, October 7th and to register online in Florida go to Vote.gov. If you have any questions, please message our President - Lindarelis Riera-Melendez on our Remind: @schsyoung or Instagram: schs_youngdems2024.



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 Spruce Creek High School



NHS

SCHS National Honor Society – Best Club of the Year

As we enter into the 2024-2025 school year, we happily celebrate Spruce Creek's 50th anniversary. The NHS membership has been continuing the efforts of service throughout the summer with President Afshan Bhuiyan's theme: "Power to the People." Other board members this year include: Bettina Spitzer, Brie Flynn (Secretary), Riley Nelson (Treasurer), Jenson Nord (Service Chair), Kiera Myers (Webmaster) and Katie Nguye (Historian). We also helped to install wind protectors for summer tennis matches with Mr. Davies. Around 10 of our members helped direct teachers on campus for District meetings during pre-planning. We also had our members working the desks to distribute School IDs. We look forward to serving our school and community with our future service projects including: campus and beach cleanups, field night, gong show, basket brigade, pickleball tournaments, muffin mania, and gardening at The Sugar Mill.

Our District NHS president is Matthew Sanders, who is a proud member of our very own SCHS chapter. The first district meeting will be hosted by our NHS chapter on Saturday, October 12th from 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. We look forward to working with Matthew and his board as we embrace his districtwide theme of "Serving with Purpose."

NHS also looks forward to collaborating with our SGA lead, Pujan Patel, and have already begun working together to welcome our incoming freshman. In the spirit of welcoming, I hope for many of our outstanding juniors and seniors to apply for the NHS and become a pillar in their community. Forms are on SCHS website and require a 3.5 minimum GPA, good character, and verified volunteer hours. The submission deadline to join the National Honor Society is Wednesday, September 4th.

Wishing all a grand 2024-2025 year!



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NEHS

CSHS National English Honor Society

The Spruce Creek Synonym Rolls chapter of the National English Honor Society is accepting applications through Friday, September 6th!

Last year was another great success and we want to do even more this year to serve our campus and community, as well as promote literacy and an interest in ELA. This year we plan to continue the tradition of hosting Poetry Out Loud on campus, form a partnership with senior living facilities, and contribute to or start a variety of other events and activities on campus and in our surrounding community.

If you are a sophomore, freshman, or junior who would like to gain some leadership experience, contribute to your community, grow your bank of service hours, and have a good time promoting literacy in your community, you should apply for membership! Applicants must have a 3.0 overall unweighted GPA and a 3.0 English unweighted GPA. For more information see bit.ly/creeknehswx or visit Ms. De Lorenzo in C-13 or Mrs. Esposito in C-1.



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