

THE FREEDOM POST

A Monthly Publication of Freedom shores
Elementary School
3400 Hypoluxo Road, FL 33436 (561) 804-3100



MARCH 2025

A note from Mr. Sabatino,



Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are moving into March and Spring Break is rapidly approaching, which is much needed for our students and teachers since they are all working so hard! Through February, we had our ACCESS testing for our English Language Learners continue, as well as our Parent Math Night and our Friendship Dance.

Our ACCESS testing is a State Test for our ELL students to show their growth and proficiency. Our ESOL team worked diligently through February completing this test. We know that our students will do the best they can.

Our Parent Math Night featured many activities that highlighted various mathematical concepts and allowed the children to have fun learning. The parents were even getting involved. Our Friendship Dance was a great success and everyone who attended had a lot of fun.

The Houses are still competing, trying to catch Nukumori in points! We are coming to the end of the trimester and everyone is anxious to see who will win this round. It is really great to see the children cheering for others when they are successful and that is truly starting to show more and more.

Our fifth-grade patrols are all getting ready to head to Washington for their Safety Patrol trip. We can't wait to hear the stories they bring back. This is a wonderful experience for them to have.

We have our SAC and PTO meetings usually on the third Wednesday of each month, so please keep this in mind and try to attend so you can get the latest information about the various on goings of our school. Also, try to send in only healthy snacks for your children and no drinks other than water. Finally, please do not park in our bus loop or neighbor's property during drop-off or pick-up times. You need to go through the car line and drop-off or pick-up your child. This line does not take very long and is safer for you and your children.

Please join us at our Family Fun Night which is happening on Friday, March 14 from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at the Five Guys Burger and Fries on Congress Avenue. These are always fun nights where you get to eat some great food and interact with others from our school.

Thanks for all your continued support,
Mr. Sabatino

A note from Ms. Rogers,



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the computer-based Grade 4 and 5 Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Writing assessment on April 2, 2025. The B.E.S.T. Writing assessment is administered in one 120-minute session, and students may work up to half of a typical school day. Your school will provide information about how to access the test results.

If you or your student would like to review the computer-based sample items at home, the sample items and certain released tests are available at <https://flfast.org/families.html>.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Kimberly Rogers at Kimberly.Rogers@palmbeachschools.org.

For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at <https://flfast.org/fsa.html>.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

Electronic Devices—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, smart glasses, and smartwatches, at any time during testing or during breaks (e.g., restroom), even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them. If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test will be invalidated.

Testing Rules Acknowledgment—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking a checkbox beside the statement in the secure browser indicating they understand the testing rules.

Discussing Test Content after Testing—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they click the box to accept the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including the passages, prompts, and writing responses) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.

Working Independently—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated.

Leaving Campus—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment), he or she will not be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.

Testing Accommodations—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

Please note, in the event a testing irregularity occurs in your student’s testing room, as part of a school investigation, your student may be asked questions to provide clarification of the incident.



Freedom Shores Elementary After School offers a variety of activities! Students will have the chance to have snacks with their friends, play great games and sports outside, complete their homework, and do fabulous enriching arts and crafts activities. Students also have the chance to participate in clubs they choose.

Registration now available online!

Registration Fee: \$35 per child

Please Register Here!



**Martinique
Jamison**

After School Site Director



561-804-3130



Martinique.Jamison@palmbeachschools.org

Follow us on Facebook HERE!



Counselor's Corner



Mrs. Heitz
diana.heitz@palmbeachschools.org

Mrs. Briceno
vanessa.serrano-briceno@palmbeachschools.org

Hello Parents and
Guardians!

Is your family living with another family, in a car or temporary shelter? If so, the district has a program called McKinney-Vento that will provide your family with resources and assistance. Contact the school counselors to start the process.

If your child is in need of clothes or uniforms, please let us know. We have a limited number of uniforms available for our students. Also, we have a resource called the Giving Closet, provides clothing for students in need.



Our Multicultural Breakfast Club will begin in March! It will be held every Thursday morning from 7:30-7:55am. Students will be able to eat breakfast and enjoy presentations about different cultures from our Freedom Shores staff and District personnel. Open to all students KG-5th graders.

Freedom Shores will continue to organize Boystown Common Sense Parents. Classes will be in Spanish at no cost. A pamphlet was sent home with your child; Please complete it and return it to school as soon as possible if you are interested. Seating is limited for this program that begins in March and lasts six weeks, every Thursday from 4:00 to 6:00 in our Bookstore. Each participant will receive a workshop book and a workbook completely free of charge. Please contact Ms. Briceño with any questions at 561-804-3103 or email at: vanessa.serrano-briceno@palmbeachschools.org



Greetings from the Special Education Department at Freedom Shores!



The Parent As Liaison (Pal)

*The Parent As Liaison (Pal) is Ms. Mary Black, you can reach her at: mary.black.c@palmbeachschools.org for assistance navigating during the ESE process. More information on Pals can be found here <https://www.fdlrsalpha.org/parent-services>.

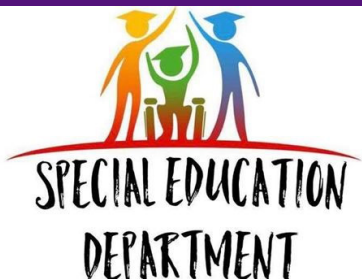


Child Find

*Child Find offers information and FREE SCREENINGS for children 3-5 years of age who may have difficulty with learning, speaking, playing, seeing, walking, and/or hearing. To begin the process, please call staff at: (561) 434-7337.



If you have a concern or would like to share new information with the ESE team please contact Dr. Sharrié Vereen, ESE Coordinator at 561-804-3110 or sharrie.vereen-thomas@palmbeachschools.org



CONTACT:
Dr. Sharrié Vereen, ESE Coordinator
sharrie.vereen-thomas@palmbeachschools.org
561-804-3110



The ESE Parent Survey is now open! This year's survey has been reduced to 10 questions and should only take you a few minutes to complete. The survey is only available online and can be translated with the dropdown menu in the top left corner to Spanish, French, Portuguese, and a few others. Additional languages can be made available upon request.

Please use this link to access the survey:

https://fldoepaads.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3PG600mhqGEGlj

MARCH 2025



Freedom Shores Elementary PTO

Presidents Message

I hope this message finds you well! Your involvement in the PTO is vital to our success, and I encourage you to get involved, share your ideas, and participate in upcoming events. Together, we can create a supportive and enriching environment for our children. If you have any questions or want to volunteer, please reach out!

REMINDER: 10 Volunteer hours are REQUIRED 2 weeks prior to chaperoning on any field trips and you will not be aloud to volunteer in your Childs classroom.

Best, Mrs. O'Brien

Important Dates:

March 19th

SAC/PTO Meeting
7am

March 21st

Ice Cream truck
during Field Day
\$4.00 per

Connect with us!



[freedomshoreses](#)



[Freedom Shores Elementary School](#)



samantha.obrien@palmbeachschools.org





Dual Language & Esol



ACCESS Testing- Testing will be completed this month for our K-5 ELL students. Individual student reports will be sent home in the Fall.



Parent Conferences- It is important that you know how your child is doing academically. Teachers are scheduling second parent conferences. If you haven't had a conference, please contact your child's teacher.

Supporting learning in the language opposite of your home language: This can be extremely challenging if your child is the only bilingual family member. The truth is, language development takes hard work in the classroom, too! Students are engaged in language production with scaffolds and support provided by the teacher, and with plenty of talk time and opportunities to interact with others using those supports. Confidence is built through these supports, and thus language eventually flows. Things you can do at home to help your child Engage in language fun! Watch favorite movies in the target language, listen to audiobooks, or create family flashcards where everyone is practicing vocabulary and learning the target language. Find ways to infuse language learning in your home or daily routine so that language exposure is not just provided by the teacher. While these extra steps do take time, they are worth the effort to instill a positive attitude and mindset around language learning .

We look forward to seeing all of you at our Dual Language Showcase March 20th, 2025 starting promptly at 8:30am.



Istation Parent Portal - Do you know what tier your child is on? If not, there are two easy ways to find out! First, ask your child's Spanish teacher or as a parent of a student in the Dual Language program, you have access to the online Istation Parent Portal!

To begin, go to <https://www.istation.com/istationhome> . The first time you log in, you will be prompted to select your student's school. Type in the school information. (This will only be done once.) Then, type in your student's login information as provided by your teacher and click Log In. This Login is different from the school district login. If you need help or have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask your child's Spanish teacher or Ms. Concepcion at maibelis.concepcion@palmbeachschools.org.



Kindergarten:

We are certainly marching on this trimester! Time surely flies when we are learning and having fun! Many exciting things are going on this month as well as many great learning opportunities. In reading, your kindergartener uses many different strategies! The students have been working very hard to decode text and comprehend what they are reading. They are also learning to re-read the text until it sounds nice and smooth. It is essential to support your child in reading at home and read to them daily or have them read to you. After reading, ask your child about the characters in their book. Discuss with them what the character did (their actions) throughout the book and how this made the character feel. Ask your child to use the pictures or specific parts of the text to support what they tell you about their characters. In math, students are practicing counting and recognizing numbers up to 100. Also, we are working on multiple strategies to add & subtract, problem-solve, and increase fact fluency within 20! We appreciate the extra help you are giving your child on basic math facts.



First Grade:

First Grade Families...Can you believe it is March already!! It's great to see the amount of growth your child has made. Thank you for all the efforts you have put in at home to help your child here at school! Here are some helpful hints to support your child at home: read or listen to books (fiction and nonfiction), help your child review telling time (o'clock and half past) and the value of coins (penny, nickel, dime, quarter), talk about the past/present/future, and discuss natural resources. A few reminders: check your child's folder every night, ask them how their day was, and encourage them to find a cozy spot and read for at least 20 minutes every day! Look on your child's portal and check their SIS cube...you will find their grades, progress reports, and report cards. Continue to go on Benchmark to increase reading skills and Reflex Math to increase fact fluency! Our focus this month is women in history. At home, discuss women in history...who they are and why they are important. Let's keep up the good work! Hope everyone has a safe and healthy spring break! We all deserve it!

Second Grade:

Happy March from Second Grade! We are feeling lucky and ready for spring! In math we are learning different strategies on how to add and subtract with 3 digit numbers. In reading we have been investigating the past and learning about how the past has shaped our future. You can really learn a lot from the past! Please remember to check your child's blue communication folder each night to keep with important information and dates!



Third Grade:

Hello 3rd-Grade Families!

Spring Break is almost here! Until then, our students will continue to work hard to meet their 3rd-grade goals. This month for reading, we'll continue Unit 6, "Making Decisions," and begin Unit 7, "Communities Then and Now." We will explore various communities from the past and present, focusing on their similarities.

In Math, students will cover data collection, representation, and interpretation in Unit 13, followed by time and measurement (both customary and metric) in Unit 14. March is Women's History Month, and we'll highlight influential women from the past and present who have shaped our world. Please check your child's agendas and communication folders daily. Thank you for your support, and enjoy a safe and restful Spring Break!

Fourth Grade:

Hello fabulous 4th grade parents!

Upcoming this month is:

Daylight savings March 9,
Voting on campus March 11,
St. Patrick's Day March 17,
PTO meeting 7am March 19,
Field day/ice cream truck March 21st,
Spring Break March 24-28.

With our end of year tests (FAST and iReady) coming closer, please be extra sure to check daily homework and stay in good communication with your child's teacher.



Fifth Grade:

Happy Spring! Thank you all who came out for our Friendship Dance, the students had a GREAT time! We have been busy learning lots in 5th grade. In ELA we have been working on a unit on Survival. The students are reviewing all reading concepts to get prepared for our state testing later this spring. Science we are going into learning all about the solar system. Math we are learning about geometric concepts and then we will be moving into interpreting data. In the upcoming months, we will be taking state assessments in Reading, Writing, Math and Science. Be on the lookout for the school to send home dates of the tests. We hope everyone has a great spring break.

Empowered
Women
Empower
Women

MARCH 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	I ♥ READING					1
2 Read Across America Day!!! 	3 Wear your house colors!	4	5	6	7 Dollar, No Collar	8 International Women's Day 
Safety Patrols in Washington, DC. - Safe Travels						
9 Daylight Savings 	10 Wear your house colors!	11 Voting Day!	12	13	14 Dollar, No Collar  Five Guys Night 4-8	15
16	17 Wear your house colors! House Meeting	18	19 7am- PTO/SAC	20 8:30am Dual Language showcase	21 Field Day!!! Ice Cream Truck Ensure all students wear closed in shoes and bring water.	22
23	Spring BREAK		26	Read at least 30 minutes daily, practice reflex or istation!		29 
30	31 No School					