

SWEETWATER

Pelican Press

December 2024

Sweetwater Elementary, the highest performing school in Port Orange

<http://schools.volusia.k12.fl.us/sweetwater/>

386-322-6230 school phone #

386-506-0012 school fax #

Volume 31, Issue 5

Dear Sweetwater Families,

As we approach the end of 2024, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many accomplishments of our wonderful students during this fall semester. Our classrooms have been filled with hard work, creativity, and a sense of curiosity that inspires us all. It has been truly rewarding to watch each child grow academically, socially, and emotionally, and I am excited to see how they will continue to shine in the months ahead.

December is a time for celebration, gratitude, and joy. We are looking forward to our upcoming holiday events, where students will have the opportunity to showcase their talents and the spirit of the season. This is a wonderful time to come together as a community and celebrate not only the successes of our students, but also the kindness, compassion, and sense of belonging that make our school such a special place.

Some Highlights Include:

Secret Santa Shop Dec. 2nd - 6

Dec. 4th Coffee Talk 8AM, 5th Grade SCHS Concert

3rd Grade Field Trip ~ Ponce Inlet Dec. 2nd, 3rd, 9th

Dec. 12th Holiday Show 5PM, 13th In-school Holiday Show

Dec. 16th KG Pioneer Settlement Field Trip

Winter Holiday 23rd - January 7th

Please check the calendar for very important testing dates! I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of our families for your continued support and involvement. Whether it's volunteering, attending school events, or simply encouraging your child, your partnership in their educational journey makes a world of difference.

As we head into the holiday season, I encourage you to take time to rest, recharge, and enjoy quality time with loved ones. We look forward to seeing everyone back in the new year, ready for another exciting chapter of learning and growth.

Wishing you and your family a peaceful, joyful, and safe holiday season!

Sweetwater Mission

Statement

We, the caring community of learners at Sweetwater Elementary, strive toward a lifetime of achieving our "personal best", guided by a positive attitude in a nurturing environment.

Volusia County Schools Mission Statement

"Through the individual commitment of all, our students will graduate with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to be successful contributors to our democratic society."

HAPPY
HOLIDAYS

Counselor Corner

News from Ms. Howard & Mrs. Elliott



Congratulations to the following 5th grade elected members of our **SGA & Student Advisory Council**:

Thatcher Fountain

Abby Clark

Reily Keith

Kimberly Castro

Emily Harrison

Eden Smith

And our 4th grade appointed members:

Eloise Berrian

Jameson Cromer

Mayci York

Scott Ruten

Vada Moore

We are very proud of these students and their leadership role on our campus.



Give
KINDNESS
this
holiday
season...

It's one
size fits
all!

Join us for our next
Coffee Talk!

December 4th
8:00AM-8:45AM

We will be discussing standardized testing and what the scores really mean.

Tests will include:

- FAST (Grades 3-5)
- Renaissance STAR (Grades K-2).



We will also touch on test anxiety and some helpful strategies to work on with your students.



Thank you to all the families who contributed to our Thanksgiving basket collection. Our Sweetwater family was able to collect enough to fill 25 complete meal baskets!

Volusia County Schools contributed a total of 900 baskets to this year's basket brigade!



Members of the Kindness Club helping to box everything up.

To reach the guidance office, please call 386-322-6230 extension 33497 or email tmhoward@volusia.k12.fl.us or smelliot@volusia.k12.fl.us.

December PTA News

Thanks to all who came out for our annual Turkey Trot 5k Color Run. If you missed it, be sure to join us next year. The Tot Trot was especially fun as our youngest students had their own color run around our PE track!

We will not have a PTA Spirit Night this month. Instead, our PTA will be busy hosting the annual Secret Santa Shop from December 2nd to 6th in the Multi-Purpose Room. This shopping opportunity allows our children to budget their money and share in the joy of giving gifts to others. Each class has an assigned day and time for shopping, and parents should reach out to their child's teacher to ask about helping their class make decisions and spend carefully for those on their list. In addition, PTA has posted a SignUpGenius link on Facebook for any parents who want to help wrap presents that are purchased.

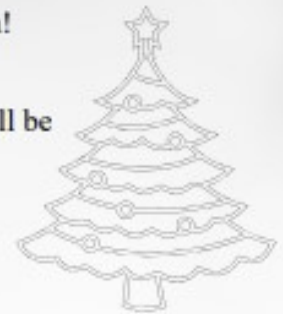
Wednesday

22

Save the date for our JANUARY spirit night at Alberto's Pizza!

Date: January 22nd

Mention 'Sweetwater Elementary' and a portion of all sales will be donated to our PTA



Thanks for your ongoing support of our students and staff!

~PTA Board~

We extend our sincere gratitude to the following businesses who sponsor PTA!

A&R Roofing	DG Meyer	Paradise Powersports
Aunt Catfish	Elite Aesthetics	Paver Sealing USA
Barrie Good Balloons	Gary Yeomans Ford	Perrines Produce
Beauchamp Orthodontics	Giuseppe's Pizza	Politis & Matovina
Captain Daddy's	Grey Ann Photography	Ponce Inlet Watersports
Casual Bird	Halifax Health Port Orange	Restoration Church
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Coastal Pavers	Life Real Estate	Shawn & Brown Insurance
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Daytona Beach International Airport	Neighbor's Ice Cream Parlor	Stacey Matthews-Johnson - KW Realty



WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!™

PLAY HARDER

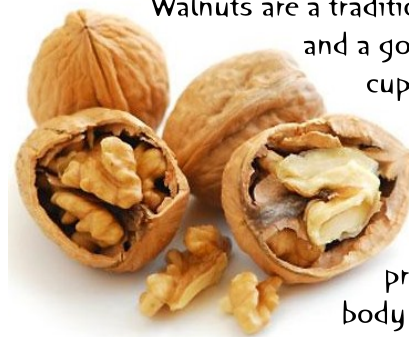
If possible, give kids gifts that encourage them to get sweaty and out of breath! A football, tennis racket, Frisbee, snowboard, horseshoe set, ball rebounder, baseball and glove – anything that requires movement and exercise! Video games that include vigorous physical activity are good, too, but don't neglect the good, old-fashioned outdoor stuff!



EAT BETTER

Try lots of different fruits, veggies, nuts, and whole grains for a healthy diet. You're bound to find a few you really like!

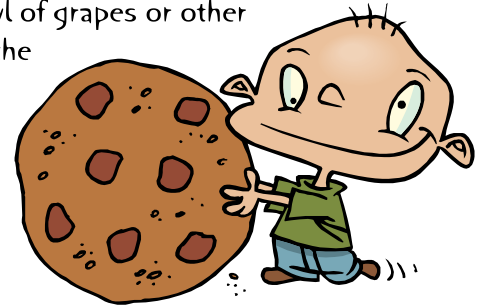
WALNUTS



Walnuts are a traditional holiday snack – and a good choice, too. Just $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of these crunchy nuts provides nearly a day's worth of omega-3 essential fatty acids, a special type of protective fat that the body can't make on its own.

LEARN EASIER

Resist the urge to let kids munch on a lot of holiday sweets while doing homework! The best snack for studying is a bowl of grapes or other fresh fruit. Save the cookies or other treats for after dinner, when they will be part of a complete, healthy meal.



LIVE HEALTHIER



Eating is a big part of holiday get-togethers, so savor that good food! Sure, try not to overdo it, and get a little exercise if you can, but cherish your precious time with family and friends!

We wish everyone a wonderful holiday season with your families and look forward to seeing you next year!

Coach Cooney, Coach Meadows, and Coach K:)

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Classes Resume Santa Secret Shop → 3rd Grade Ponce Inlet Field Trip	3 Jenna Shirts 3rd Grade Ponce Inlet Field Trip	4 Positivi-Tee Shirts Coffee Talk, 8:00am 5th Grade SCHS Concert Early Release, 1:30pm	5 Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	6 Spirit Day	7 Musical Workday
8	9 3rd Grade Ponce Inlet Field Trip	10 Jenna Shirts 5th Grade Science VBA2 Test	11 Positivi-Tee Shirts Early Release, 1:30pm	12 3rd-5th Grade ELA VBA2 Test 4th Grade Science VST3 Test Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm Holiday Show, 5:00pm	13 Spirit Day Holiday Show (In School)	14
15	16 Kindergarten Pioneer Settlement Field Trip	17 Jenna Shirts 3rd-5th Grade Math VBA2 Test	18 Positivi-Tee Shirts NO Early Release	19 Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	20 Spirit Day NO Early Release (Hurricane Milton Make Up)	21
22	23 Winter Holiday Begins NO SCHOOL	24 NO SCHOOL	25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28
29	30 NO SCHOOL	31 NO SCHOOL				

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6 Teacher Duty Day/ Student Holiday NO SCHOOL	7 Classes Resume Jenna Shirts	8 Positivi-Tee Shirts Early Release, 1:30pm	9 3rd-5th Grade FAST PM2 ELA Test Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	10 Spirit Day 4th Grade St. Augustine Field Trip KG-2nd Grade "Super Me" Guidance Program, 9:00-10:00am	11
12	13	14 Jenna Shirts 3rd-5th Grade FAST PM2 Math Test SAC Meeting, 2:45pm PTA MOAS Night	15 Positivi-Tee Shirts KG & 1st FAST PM2 Math Test Early Release, 1:30pm	16 2nd Grade FAST PM2 Reading Test Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	17 Spirit Day KG & 1st Grade FAST PM2 Math Test	18
19	20 Martin Luther King's Birthday Holiday NO SCHOOL	21 Jenna Shirts 2nd Grade FAST PM2 Math Test	22 Positivi-Tee Shirts PTA Class Membership Ice Cream Party Early Release, 1:30pm	23 Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	24 100th Day of School Spirit Day	25 Musical Workday
26	27 Celebrate Literacy Week National Honor Society Induction, 5:30pm	28 Jenna Shirts 2nd Grade Athens Theater Field Trip	29 Positivi-Tee Shirts Early Release, 1:30pm	30 3rd Grade Science VST3 Test Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	31 Spirit Day Pizza With The Principal	



Breakfast K-5 December 2024

*Menus are subject to change

Breakfast Prices:
Students: Complimentary
Adults and visiting children: \$4.00
[Prepay at MySchoolBucks.com](http://PrepayatMySchoolBucks.com)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Monday 2 Cinnamon Roll Strawberry Pop-Tart Pineapple Cup Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Tuesday 3 Egg and Cheese on a sweet bun Muffin Apple Cinn 80/cs Diced Peach Cup Juice Orange 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Wednesday 4 Chicken Biscuit Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie Donut Dunkers Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Thursday 5 Country Egg Scramble Tater Tot Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Mixed Fruit Cup Juice Orange 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Friday 6 French Toast Sticks Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast
Monday 9 Chicken Biscuit Donut Holes Blueberry 60/cs Diced Peach Cup Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Tuesday 10 Grilled Cheese w/Bacon Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie Donut Dunkers Diced Pear Cup Juice Orange 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Wednesday 11 Chicken Griddle Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Pineapple Cup Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Thursday 12 Ham Egg Cheese Croissant Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie Mixed Fruit Cup Juice Orange 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Friday 13 French Toast Sticks Strawberry Pop-Tart Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast
Monday 16 Cinnamon Roll Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie Diced Peach Cup Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Tuesday 17 Chicken Biscuit Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Juice Orange 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Wednesday 18 Artisan Maple Waffle Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie Mandarin Orange Fruit Cup Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Thursday 19 Bacon Egg Cheese Biscuit Muffin Apple Cinn 80/cs Diced Peach Cup Juice Orange 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast	Friday 20 French Toast Sticks Strawberry Pop-Tart Juice Apple 72/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit Gluten-Free Cheerios Gluten-Free Honey Nut Cheerios CEREAL CINN TST RDUC SUG BWLPK 96/cs Cocoa Puffs Gluten-Free Lucky Charms Cinnamon Toast



Lunch K-5 December 2024

*Menus are subject to change

Lunch Prices:
Students: Complimentary
Adults and visiting children: \$5.00
Prepay at MySchoolBucks.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Monday 2 Tangerine Chicken Fried Rice PBJ Bundle Broccoli CUCUMBERS CHL SL 50/3oz/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Tuesday 3 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Nardone's Turkey Cheese Croissant Corn CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday 4 Mozzarella Cheese Bites Ham Cheese Croissant Southern Baked Beans CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Slushie Kiwi Strawberry 60/4oz/cs Pineapple Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Thursday 5 Chicken Sandwich Cobb Salad Texas toast Crinkle Cut Fries TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Assorted Juice Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday 6 Cheeseburger Chef Salad Texas toast Green Beans w/ Bacon CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday 9 Boneless Chicken & Mini Waffles PBJ Bundle Cheesy Broccoli CUCUMBERS CHL SL 50/3oz/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Tuesday 10 Beef Nachos Chip Tortilla Round 64/1.45oz/cs SALSA CUP 168/3oz/cs Ham and Cheese Bun Refried Beans CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Mixed Fruit Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday 11 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Nardone's Turkey and Cheese Bun Corn TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Slushie Kiwi Strawberry 60/4oz/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Thursday 12 Hot Dog K-5 Cobb Salad Texas toast Crinkle Cut Fries CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday 13 Stuffed Cheese Sticks Chef Salad Texas toast Green Beans w/ Bacon CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Assorted Juice Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday 16 Chicken Alfredo Texas toast PBJ Bundle Cheesy Broccoli CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Slushie Kiwi Strawberry 60/4oz/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Tuesday 17 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Nardone's Turkey Cheese Croissant Corn CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Wednesday 18 Chicken wings Chicken Wings with Sweet Teriyaki Sauce Biscuit Ham and Cheese Bun Southern Baked Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Pineapple Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Thursday 19 Savory Sliced Turkey Candied Yams Herb-Infused Seasoned Stuffing Green Beans w/ Bacon Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Cinnamon Roll Choice of Fresh Fruit	Friday 20 Pepperoni Cheese Bread Texas toast Cobb Salad Green Beans w/ Bacon CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Assorted Juice Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit

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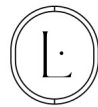
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