

SWEETWATER

Pelican Press

January 2025

Sweetwater Elementary School, a top rated Volusia County School

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

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Volume 31, Issue 5

Dear Sweetwater Families,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2025! I hope you and your loved ones had a joyful and restful holiday season. As we turn the calendar to a fresh new year, we're excited to dive into the opportunities and adventures this semester holds for our students, staff, and families.

Reflecting on Progress

As we look back at the first half of this wonderful school year, we are proud of the growth and achievements of our Pelicans. From academic progress to extracurricular performances and programs, our students have demonstrated creativity, curiosity, and a love for learning. A heartfelt thank-you to our families for your continuous support, which plays an essential role in fostering this success.

Focus for the New Year

Our theme for January is "**New Year, New Goals!**" We encourage students to set personal and academic goals that inspire them to soar to new heights. Teachers will guide students in setting goals to ensure meaningful progress. As parents, you can join this effort by discussing goals with your children and celebrating their achievements along the way.

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars! Here are a few important dates to keep in mind:

- **January 9:** FAST PM 2 ELA Grades 3rd - 5th test
- **January 10:** Report Cards go home
- **January 14:** FAST PM2 Math 2 Grades 3rd - 5th test...SAC Meeting 2:45
- **January 17:** Club pictures for yearbook
- **January 20:** Holiday - MLK Day
- **January 27:** Celebrate Literacy Week Begins

Sweetwater Elementary has been such a special place for me—a true home filled with joy, purpose, and an incredible community of families like yours. The time I've spent here has been one of the greatest blessings of my career, and I will forever be grateful to have been part of this family.

Sweetwater will always be part of me, and I will carry the memories of your children's laughter, curiosity, and growth with me wherever I go. Watching them SOAR, not just academically but as kind, resilient individuals, has been my greatest joy and privilege. I know they will continue to soar even higher, because they are surrounded by extraordinary teachers, staff, and families who are committed to their success.

Please know how much I care for your families and how honored I've been to be part of your children's journeys. Sweetwater is a community like no other, and I will miss it deeply. It has been a joy to partner with you in shaping the future, and I am so proud of all that we have accomplished together.

Transitions can be hard, but I am confident in this community's ability to embrace change and continue growing together. Sweetwater's spirit, dedication, and heart will ensure it remains a place of excellence, and I know the best is yet to come for this school.

Happy New Year full of blessings to you all!

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."



Counselor Corner

News from Ms. Howard & Mrs. Elliott

January 2025



We are thrilled to welcome you back for the second half of the school year. Your school counselors are here to support you every step of the way, whether it's academically, socially, or emotionally. Remember, no matter what you're going through, we're here to help!

Feel free to reach out for guidance, advice, or just a friendly chat. We're looking forward to a wonderful year ahead!



PELICAN PACKS



Sweetwater Elementary School is offering Pelican Pack – weekend food bags to any families in need. Once signed up, we would send home a bag each Friday with kid friendly breakfast, lunch and snack items for the weekend. Students return the bags each Monday. If you would like your child to participate in the Pelican Pack Program, please contact the guidance office.

Our Lifelong Guidelines for January:

Trustworthiness: Being reliable, dependable and honest with your words and actions.

Initiative: Taking action before being asked.

Kindness Matters Pass It On!

Thank you to our 5th graders from the KC club, who handed out candy canes to celebrate the holiday season.



To reach the guidance office, please call 386-322-6230 extension 33497 / 33326 or email tmhoward@volusia.k12.fl.us or smelliot@volusia.k12.fl.us

COULD YOUR CHILD BENEFIT FROM A SMALL GROUP?

The needs of children are ever changing and demanding. To help meet these needs, we will be offering small group counseling as a part of our school's developmental guidance program. Each group will meet once a week for 6 weeks.

Small group counseling is one of the most effective ways to help students work through the many changes they experience during the developmental process. The students will feel better, understand themselves and others better, and learn positive ways to handle life's challenges.

Topics include:

- Self-esteem*
- Changing Families*
- Grief*
- School Success*
- Anxiety*
- Anger Management*

For more information or to sign your child up for one of these small groups, please call the guidance office at 386-322-6230 extension 33497 (KG, 1st, 5th) or 33326 (2nd, 3rd, 4th)



January PTA News

Thanks to our many parents who volunteered at the PTA Secret Santa Shop in December. We had nearly 20 volunteers each day of the week to help our children shop and to wrap presents. We cannot say 'thank you' enough for making this event happen for our school! PTA raised over \$7,000 because of your generosity! Funds raised from this event will support SWE families in need, the Spring Fling, student field trips and enrichment opportunities, teacher appreciation, and more!

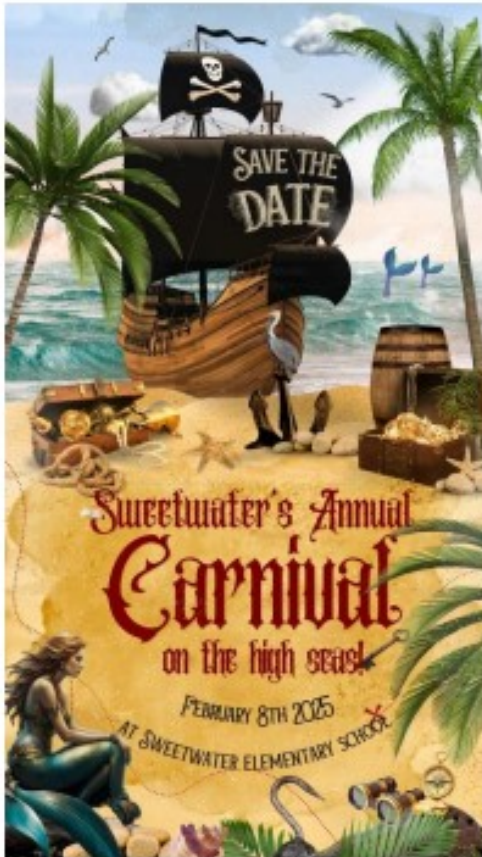
Wednesday

22

Our JANUARY spirit night is at Alberto's Pizza! This is a take-out or delivery only establishment, so plan accordingly to enjoy delicious Albertos food at home with your family, while supporting our PTA!

Date: January 22nd

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



Save the date for our HUGE Spring Carnival coming up on Saturday, February 8th! Sponsors and local businesses are invited to set up a table with a game for kids to play. We will have bounce houses, a cake walk, a bake sale, and much more! Reach out to the PTA board if you have specific questions or would like to host a game. Email us: sweetwaterelementarypta@gmail.com

We are wishing our Sweetwater community a Happy New Year filled with learning and fun!

Sincerely,

Sweetwater Elementary PTA Board

Happy
New Year!

Pelican Press

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! We hope everyone had a happy, healthy and active winter break.

Please make sure you're paying attention to what special area your child has each week. Students are required to wear sneakers on P.E. weeks in order to participate. This is for their safety, so we appreciate your support. 😊



Thank you!

Coach Cooney, Coach Meadows, and Coach Kocsis

Yearbooks

Yearbooks are available to purchase online at www.buytheyearbook.com until April 30th. Recognition ads for fifth graders are available on the same website.

Attention Parents of Fifth Graders: The deadline for ads is February 14. Don't wait too long and miss these deadlines! Buy yours today!

"How did it get so late so soon?" ~Dr. Seuss

Please remember, students are dismissed at 2:30 p.m.

All students must be picked up no later than 2:40 p.m.

On early release Wednesdays, dismissal is at 1:30 p.m., and students must be picked up by 1:40 p.m. Thank you for making sure your child knows how they are getting home each day!



Arrive by 7:40!

This is a reminder that school begins promptly at 7:50 a.m. The warning bell rings at 7:40. Our gates open at 7:20. Please leave home early enough so that you are not caught in traffic and late for school!



January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 NO SCHOOL	2 NO SCHOOL	3 NO SCHOOL	4
5	6 Teacher Duty Day/ Student Holiday NO SCHOOL	7 Classes Resume Jenna Shirts	8 Positivi-Tee Shirts Early Release, 1:30pm	9 Report Cards 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 National Honor Society Meeting, 2:30 - 3:00pm	14 Jenna Shirts 3rd-5th Grade FAST PM2 Math Test SAC Meeting, 2:45pm	15 Positivi-Tee Shirts KG & 1st Grade 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 Club Photos for Yearbook, 12:00pm	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	

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2						1
3	Black History & Love The Bus Month National School Counseling Week →	4 Jenna Shirts	5 Positvi-Tee Shirts NO Early Release	6 Class Pictures Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	7 Spirit Day	8 Carnival
9	10	11 Jenna Shirts	12 Positvi-Tee Shirts Early Release, 1:30pm	13 Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	14 Valentine's Day Spirit Day PTA Scholarship Deadline	15
16	17 President's Day Holiday NO SCHOOL	18 Jenna Shirts	19 Positvi-Tee Shirts NO Early Release PTA MOAS Night, 5:30 - 7:00pm	20 5th Grade Science VST2 Test Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	21 Spirit Day	22 Musical Workday
23	24	25 Jenna Shirts SAC Meeting, 3:00pm	26 Positvi-Tee Shirts Early Release, 1:30pm	27 Kona Ice Good News Club, 2:35pm	28 Spirit Day Pizza With The Principal	



Breakfast K-5 January 2025

*Menus are subject to change

Breakfast Prices:
Students: Complimentary
Adults and visiting children: \$4.00
Prepay at MySchoolBucks.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

	Tuesday	7	Wednesday	8	Thursday	9	Friday	10	
	Egg and Cheese on a sweet bun Strawberry Pop-Tart 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	•	Chicken Biscuit Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie 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		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		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	Tuesday	13	14	Wednesday	15	Thursday	16	Friday	17
Mini Corn Pups Glazed Dunkin Sticks 60/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	Sausage Breakfast Pizza Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie 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		Chicken Griddle ChocChip Muffin 72/2oz/cs Mixed 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		Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie Tater Tot 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		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		
	Tuesday	21	Wednesday	22	Thursday	23	Friday	24	
	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		Cinnamon Roll Strawberry Pop-Tart 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		Bacon Egg Cheese Biscuit Glazed Dunkin Sticks 60/cs Tater Tot 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		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	Tuesday	27	28	Wednesday	29	Thursday	30	Friday	31
Pancake Breakfast Sandwich Donut Holes Blueberry 60/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	Egg and Cheese on a sweet bun Strawberry Pop-Tart 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		Chicken Biscuit Twist & Go Mango Pineapple Smoothie 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		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		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		



Lunch K-5 January 2025

*Menus are subject to change

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

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	Tuesday 7	Wednesday 8	Thursday 9	Friday 10
	Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Nardone's Turkey Cheese Croissant Corn CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Stuffed Cheese Sticks PBJ Bundle Roasted Green Beans CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Pineapple Cup Slushie Berry Berry Blue 60/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	BBQ shredded chicken sandwich Cobb Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Southern Baked Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Assorted Juice Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Baked Chicken Penne K-5 Texas toast Boneless Chicken Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Side Salad CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday 13	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 15	Thursday 16	Friday 17
Boneless Chicken & Mini Waffles PBJ Bundle Roasted Green Beans CUCUMBERS CHL SL 50/3oz/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Cheeseburger Ham Cheese Croissant Potato Smiles CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Pepperoni Cheese Bread PBJ Bundle Corn CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Slushie Berry Berry Blue 60/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Beef Nachos Chip Tortilla Round 64/1.45oz/cs Salad, Ham and Cheese K5 Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Refried Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Mixed Fruit Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Chicken Alfredo Texas toast Chip Tortilla Round 64/1.45oz/cs Broccoli CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Assorted Juice Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit
	Tuesday 21	Wednesday 22	Thursday 23	Friday 24
	Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Nardone's Turkey and Cheese Bun Broccoli CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Orange Mandarin Section Cups 72/4.5oz/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	Chicken wings Chicken Wings with Sweet Teriyaki Sauce Biscuit PBJ Bundle Southern Baked Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Pineapple Cup	Hot Dog K-5 Corn dog, Chicken Grilled Fajita Chicken Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Corn CUCUMBERS CHL SL 50/3oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit	Chicken Sandwich Cobb Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Sweet Potato Crinkle Fries CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Assorted Juice Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit
Monday 27	Tuesday 28	Wednesday 29	Thursday 30	Friday 31
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	Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Nardone's Turkey Cheese Croissant Corn CELERY CHL STICKS 50/3oz/cs Diced Pear Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Stuffed Cheese Sticks PBJ Bundle Roasted Green Beans CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Pineapple Cup Slushie Berry Berry Blue 60/cs Choice of Fresh Fruit	BBQ shredded chicken sandwich Cobb Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Southern Baked Beans TOMATOES FR GRAPE 50/3OZ/Cs Assorted Juice Diced Peach Cup Choice of Fresh Fruit	Baked Chicken Penne K-5 Texas toast Boneless Chicken Salad Muffin Banana 72/2oz/cs Side Salad CARROTS CHL BABY WHL PEEL 100/2oz/cs Applesauce, Cinnamon Cups Choice of Fresh Fruit

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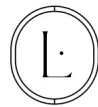
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