



Early Childhood Services Newsletter St. Johns County School District

Pre-School for All

Enrollment is open for the 2018-2019 School Year

Head Start (for eligible 3 & 4 year olds) and **VPK** (4 years old only). Your child must be age eligible by September 1st 2018, for both programs. For more information visit the St. Johns County School Districts web page at www.stjohns.k12.fl.us and look for us under departments/Early Childhood Services or call 904-547-8965.

Tidbits from Tina

Hi my name is Tina Larson and I am the Mental Health Consultant for Head Start. I have the honor of visiting the Head Start classes on a rotation every month. Head Start children are fun and full of energy. My goal is to assist the children in learning about feelings, emotions, and using appropriate behaviors. Feelings and behaviors have a connection. It is my hope that you will read and implement these helpful hints.

When young children are worried, sad, or angry, it can be hard to:

Make friends, follow directions, express feelings or wishes, pay attention in class and solve problems in a positive way

Things you can do and say to help your child:

1. Make sure they always feel safe. *"I know loud noises can be scary. It is okay and I am here with you."*
2. Offer choices. *"Do you want the blue shirt or the red shirt?"*
3. Practice patience. *"Let's wait until the song is over and then we will go outside."*
4. Show understanding. *"You REALLY want another cookie. It is hard when you can only have one."*
5. Practice following directions. *"First pick up the blocks and then pick up the cars."*
6. Praise your child when she keeps trying. *"I love the way you keep trying to find the right piece of the puzzle."*
7. Play together at least 15 minutes a day. *"We are so busy today, but it is important for us to play together for a little while"*.

February 2018

Dates to remember

- ☉ **Monday, February 19th,**
No school—Presidents day

Monday Fun-Day Free Preschool Series Events

Provided by the *SJCSD Early Childhood Services Department*. All sessions will be held, 5:30-6:30 pm, at the Yates Building, 47 Orange St., St. Augustine, 32084.

First Monday - Bigger Than Books, story telling and story-time

Second Monday - Cookin' Kids
Third Monday—No school, Presidents day

Fourth Monday - Once Upon a Mat, Children's yoga and parent activity



Family Friendly Events

Prescribed Fire Awareness Day, Saturday February 3, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. This fun family-friendly event will inform you and your family on the importance of prescribed fire for natural resource management, healthy ecosystems, and public safety. There will be hands-on activities, educational displays, experienced burners from various agencies and parks, as well as fire demonstrations (weather permitting). For more information, please call Anastasia State Park at (904) 461-2033. Event is free with admission to park. Park entry is \$8 per vehicle with 2-8 people per vehicle. Where: Anastasia State Park at 300 Anastasia State Park Blvd., St. Augustine, Florida, 32080.

Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens, The first Saturday of each month is free for all. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, 829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32204. Thanks to the generous support of J. Wayne and Delores Barr Weaver. Guests can enjoy free admission, as well as art-making activities for all ages in the Cummer Gardens, live music, and a Docent-led tour at 2 p.m. Web-site: www.cummermuseum.org

Michael's Kids Club, Every Saturday, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Michael's Arts & Crafts, 310 CBL Dr Cobblestone Village St. Augustine, FL 32086. Let your kids explore their creativity while you shop! Only \$2 per child reserves 30 minutes for your creative kid. Sessions starting every half hour from 10am - 12pm. See a store associate to join the fun! Cost: \$2

Flight to Freedom, Saturday, February 8th through 10th, 2018. Fort Mose will host their annual Flight to Freedom event, which recreates the experience of the hundreds of slaves who traveled to Fort Mose in search of freedom in America's first Underground Railroad. Visitors are taken on the Freedom Trail by a guide. Sign up for the tour when you get there. Living history demonstrations take place throughout the day. Admission to the park grounds and to the event are free. For more information, call (904) 823-2234. Where: Fort Mose State Park is located at 15 Fort Mose Trail, St. Augustine

Click Clack Moo I Love You! Story-time, Saturday, February 10, 2018, 11:00 am, Barnes & Noble, 1930 U.S. 1 South St. Augustine, FL 32086. Little Duck and all of her friends on the farm celebrate Valentine's Day by inviting a newcomer to join in the fun. Activities to follow. Cost: free.

FL STEM and Health Expo, Saturday, February 10, 2018, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm. River City Science Academy Main Campus- 7565 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville 32216. A free public event for the whole family! You will find exciting STEM activities, health resources, games, food trucks, music and more! Ignite your passion for STEM and have some fun! www.flstemexpo.com

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss Story-time, Saturday, February 24, 2018, 11:00 am, Barnes & Noble, 1930 U.S. 1 South St. Augustine, FL, 32086 In celebration of the beloved author's birthday on March 2nd, join us for a special Story time featuring coloring, activities, and more. Don't miss out on this fun-filled Story time! Cost: free