

For The Parents, Staff, Students & Community Of  
**Millennium Middle School**  
21 Lakeview Drive, Sanford FL, 32773



# FALCON FLIGHT PLAN

JANUARY 2018

[www.millennium.scps.k12.fl.us](http://www.millennium.scps.k12.fl.us)

Issue 1  
VOLUME 4

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

## *Principal's Message*

Welcome 2018! May you and your families enjoy a happy and healthy new year. We closed the semester with many performances and presentations from our amazingly talented students. Thank you to all of our students, parents, staff and the entire Millennium community for sharing your time and talent with us. Most definitely, we are grateful for the generous support of our PTSA and SAC who support our several student recognition programs.

Construction of the new Millennium campus is moving right along with an anticipated move in date of August 2018! This is an exciting time for the Millennium community. Our educational focus will remain as a Fine Arts and Communications Magnet offering a Pre-IB curriculum—only the location and campus will change. Follow Millennium Middle School on Facebook and Twitter to keep up with the progress!

The window for FSA Writing begins March 1. The Reading and Math FSA testing window begins April 16! We ask parents and guardians to assist by continually encouraging your child to give their very best effort on these exams. Further, please try to avoid scheduling appointments and trips on FSA testing days. We know that many outside leagues and organizations continue their busy schedules through this time. To facilitate attendance for these exams, please provide coaches and sponsors with testing dates and suggest a limit the amount of practice and play that occurs during this time. Late arrivals and early dismissals may result in make-up testing which will disrupt your child's daily school schedule.

As we pass the midpoint of the school year, we begin our

preparation for next year. Eighth grade students will receive registration materials from the high schools this month. Our existing sixth and seventh grade students received their MMS registration materials and should have returned them to their Science teacher. Hopefully you had an opportunity to review these materials with your child to make choices that will support and stretch their skills. Counselors will continue to meet one on one with students during their Science class.

Students who demonstrate proficiency with the FSA assessments should strongly consider taking advanced level classes to provide them with the necessary challenge which prepares them for high school. Those students that achieve the higher scores will be placed in advanced level classes. For those students who struggle with the assessment will be provided intensive support for reading and/or math.

Communication is the key to any successful organization. In accordance with this, we suggest you ensure your Skyward information (email address, phone number and home address) is always up to date and that you periodically visit our website. Emergencies do occur and we may need to contact you. Also, check with a neighbor

*continued on page 2...*



To download a PDF version of this newsletter, go to <http://www.academypublishing.com/schools/millennium/millennium.php>

## ADMINISTRATION

### Principal

Dr. Margaret Gunderson

Monday - Friday

8:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 407-320-6550

### Assistant Principals

Dan Thompson – 8th Grade

Victoria Hyatt – 7th Grade

Trina Grenon – 6th Grade

### Deans

Evan Sokolowsky

Michael Brown

### Administration Manager

Deborah Smith



SEMINOLE COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Our Mission

"Millennium Today...College  
Tomorrow"

.....  
Educating Every Child

Every Day

Every Class



### BETA Club

During the month of February, BETA Club will be sponsoring Millennium Middle School's annual Pennies for Patients drive benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Last year, our school was able to raise \$2,755.78 and we are hoping to do even better in 2018! Please consider donating your spare change to this great cause! If you have questions, you can contact Ms. Meyer or Ms. Voke.

### Cell Phones & Electronics

All cell phones and electronics should be turned off and put away in student's backpack or pocket during the school day. However, students are allowed to play games or read books on their electronics during lunch. Photographs and video are not allowed.

### 2018 Teacher of the Year



I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself and with great pleasure to be recognized as Millennium Middle Schools Teacher of the Year. My name is Jody Thackery; I graduated from the University of Akron and moved shortly after to Florida in 2003. Quickly after moving to Florida I started working at Millennium with students with varying exceptionalities in a self-contained classroom setting and moved into a co-teacher position for the Exceptional Student Education Department. I have worked diligently with our main body of teachers and students with a positive attitude and engaging personality. Currently, I am the department chair for ESE and provide support to the students in 8th Grade Math. With great success, I have organized tutorial, track and cross country here at Millennium.

My second job is also a full time career. I am married and have two amazing boys, Landon and Evan. In my free time I enjoy kayaking, hunting, fishing and relaxing with my family at the beach. We also raise and enjoy dogs, pigs, rabbits, turtles and many chickens on our property in Lake County.

## Principal's Message

...continued from cover

or friend to make sure they are receiving this newsletter and emails from the school. If not, ask them to review their information in Skyward. You can also follow many updates on FB and Twitter.

In closing, we would like to recognize Mrs. Thackery, Millennium Middle School Teacher of the Year and Mr. Marcy Specht, Non-Instructional Employee of the Year. Both staff members are a true reflection of the entire staff's dedication and commitment to our students.

Margaret M. Gunderson, Ed. D.

Principal

### Guidance

#### 6th/7th Grade Parents:

- **January 9th** – Course selection forms given to students for the 2018-19 school year.
- **January 10-19** – Teacher approval and parent signatures required for course selection.
- **January 16th** – Coffee with the Counselors for 6th and 7th grade parents at 9:30a.m. in the Little Theater. Come enjoy coffee and learn about course selection and registration for the 2018-19 school year.
- **January 22 - February 2** – Counselors in Science classes to meet with students and input course selection for 6th and 7th grade students.

#### 8th Grade parents:

- **January 10th** – Notification emails are sent for on-time High School magnets. Parents/guardians MUST accept/decline their students' magnet seat or wait list seat by January 19, 2018.
- **January 24th and 25th** – Seminole High School Counselors will be at Millennium to meet with 8th grade students regarding registration and course selection.
- **January 31st** – Winter Springs High School Counselors will be at Millennium to meet with 8th grade students regarding registration and course selection.
- **February 6th** – Lake Mary High School Counselors will be at Millennium to meet with 8th grade students regarding registration and course selection
- **February 1 - April 1, 2018** – On-Time transfer application period. (Capacity, Diversity, and Program of Emphasis)

### Family Engagement Events

Join us for upcoming Family Engagement Events:

- **January 26** – Literacy Night Book Tasting, 6:00p.m. – 7:30p.m., Media Center  
Food, Fun, and Literacy Strategies  
Book Fair will also be open
- **February 27** – STEAM Fair, 5:15p.m. – 7:00p.m., Gym  
Special student performances  
Food, Interactive Activities, 3D Printer, etc.

### Hoops For Heart

All physical education students will have an opportunity to participate in the American Heart Association Hoops for Heart event. The event will be held during their class the week of February 13th. Look for information to be coming home at the end of January.



## Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Corner

Millennium Middle School is a Positive Behavior Support (PBS) school. Our focus with this program is to create an inclusive and welcoming school environment where all students can learn. PBS teaches school-wide expectations using a positive approach. At Millennium, we teach students to have PRIDE in Millennium and students are encouraged to show their PRIDE everyday.

By teaching and re-teaching these expectations, our faculty and staff are focusing on helping each student become part of our Millennium community. Students meeting these expectations in the classrooms and around campus can be rewarded with Falcon Bucks. These are given out by faculty and staff on campus to students who we “catch” exhibiting PRIDE in Millennium. The Falcon Bucks can be traded in as part of our token economy for small rewards or saved up to try for something even better! We want to reward our Falcons who are showing their PRIDE in Millennium EVERY DAY!

Take a look at the expectations we have for our students and encourage them to continue doing an excellent job showing their PRIDE in Millennium!

When we have PRIDE in Millennium, it means we:

- Prepare for Today
- Respect our School
- Interact Positively
- Do our Best, and
- Encourage Excellence

## SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attention 6th Grade Parents

An additional immunization is required by the Department of Health and the Department of Education **for all students entering the 7th grade next school year.**

A **Tdap** booster (adult strength tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) is required before your child can begin the school year 2018-19 unless a booster dose has been received within the past five years and the school has documentation of the student receiving the earlier booster dose.

Formal documentation is mandated. You must present a completed Florida Certificate of Immunization form **DH 680**, with an updated Part A signed by a healthcare provider or designee, for your child to receive a schedule or enter school on the first day of the school year.

Please submit the proper proof of immunization to your child's school as soon as possible.

If you are unsure if you have turned your child's updated immunization in to the school, you can check the shots that the school has on record by logging into skyward and looking in the health tab.

Your child's healthcare provider or the Seminole County Health Department can provide the **Tdap** booster. The Health Department is located at the following addresses:

**Seminole County Health Department**  
400 W. Airport Blvd.  
Sanford, FL 32771

**Immunization Unit Phone:**  
407-665-3000

*Millennium is on Facebook!*

[www.facebook.com/MillenniumMiddleSchool](http://www.facebook.com/MillenniumMiddleSchool)

Falcons Have <b>PRIDE</b> in Millennium				
Expectations	Classroom	Cafeteria	Campus Areas	Dismissal
<b>P</b> repared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrive on time</li> <li>• Have necessary materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get what you need the first time</li> <li>• Know your lunch number</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow dress code</li> <li>• Know your designated area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know how you get home</li> <li>• Know your bus number</li> </ul>
<b>R</b> espectful Behaviors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remain quiet while others are speaking</li> <li>• Follow teacher's directions</li> <li>• Take care of classroom materials</li> <li>• Use school-appropriate language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean up after yourself</li> <li>• Remain seated and raise your hand for permission to get up</li> <li>• Put trash in trash can</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put trash in trash cans</li> <li>• Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself</li> <li>• Stay in designated areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow dismissal directives</li> <li>• Walkers/bike riders exit campus immediately</li> <li>• Bus riders and car riders go directly to your dismissal area</li> </ul>
<b>I</b> nteractions That Are Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect opinions of others</li> <li>• Celebrate success</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use good table manners</li> <li>• Say "please" and "thank you"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use school-appropriate language</li> <li>• Be considerate of others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow directions with a positive attitude</li> <li>• Only leave with YOUR designated group</li> </ul>
<b>D</b> oing Our Best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set goals and strive to achieve them</li> <li>• Participate in classroom discussions</li> <li>• Ask for help when you need it</li> <li>• Be on task</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be considerate to all students and staff</li> <li>• Enter promptly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make good choices</li> <li>• Stay on sidewalks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remain seated until your dismissal group is called</li> </ul>
<b>E</b> ncouraging Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be proud of your work</li> <li>• Look for ways to improve</li> <li>• Promote PRIDE expectations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep area clean</li> <li>• Promote PRIDE expectations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report unkind/unsafe acts</li> <li>• Promote PRIDE expectations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report unkind/unsafe acts</li> <li>• Promote PRIDE expectations</li> </ul>

## 2018 Employee of the Year

My name is Marcy Specht and I have held many roles in the front office of Millennium Middle School over the last few years. I strive to give our parents, students, and staff a positive experience while in the front office by answering questions and assisting in any way I can. My most recent position at the school is serving as the Bookkeeper. I support our teachers and staff with purchasing supplies for their classroom, assisting with field trip arrangements, and fundraisers.



I think the thing that surprised me the most about working at the middle school level was just how much I enjoy this age group. It is a transitional age that brings on many challenges and rewards. What a wonderful privilege I have to be a part of these students' school life, if only for a few short years.

I am honored to be Millennium Middle School's Employee of the Year nominee for 2018!

**'Falcon Flight Plan'**  
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 Sanford, FL 32773



# Department News

## *Social Studies*

*Parents - Please check Skyward on a regular basis. You can see your child's grades and missing assignments as soon as they are posted.*

### **6th Grade**

In World History, students are beginning this semester learning about Ancient Egypt and then will move into Greece and Rome. They will investigate Ancient Greece and examine how different factors encouraged the growth of Ancient Greek civilization. Then they will examine the important achievements and contributions of Ancient Greece and illustrate how democratic concepts developed. Students will also have the opportunity to investigate how the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars lead to the growth and decline of Ancient Greek Civilization.

### **7th Grade**

This quarter started with a review of the Declaration of Independence and the three Branches of Government. Then students will then examine the structure and content of the Constitutions, moving into the amendment process. They will wrap up the quarter with the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the Constitution, as well as the landmark Supreme Court Cases.

### **8th Grade**

U.S. History students are beginning the quarter with a study of the early years of our nation, focusing on the foreign and domestic issues surrounding the first four presidents. Then, students are moving west, taking a look at Jacksonian Democracy & Westward Expansion. Finally, the nine weeks wraps up with an investigation into the divergent development of the North and South, in preparation for our study of the causes of the Civil War in the final quarter of the school year.

## *Math*

The Math Department cannot believe that it is already 2018! It is exciting to see all the learning that is taking place in Millennium's math classes.

Our 6th grade students have reached their goal of understanding rational numbers. Students are finishing working on understanding that a variable can represent an unknown number. With these foundational skills, the students will be able to create and solve equations and inequalities. Advanced math has finished unit four, rational number operations. Shortly, our Advanced classes will be starting the geometry unit where they will find the area and volume of figures. GEM classes are wrapping up unit 6 over ratios, proportions and percentages. Students will move into the probability unit.

Millennium's 7th Grade Math classes have just finished working on multi-step questions. They are about to start lessons on modeling geometric figures in unit four. The 7th Grade Advance students are now able to draw similar triangles. They are also able to use informal arguments to give facts about angles of a triangle. The students will be moving into lessons about probability.

Our Pre-Algebra and 8th grade Intensive math students are working on the understanding of two-dimensional figure transformations. Students have learned about rotations, reflections, translations, and dilations. Algebra students are completing the statistics and data unit. Students are now able to use statistics appropriate to the shape of the data distribution to compare center and spread of two or more different data sets. The Algebra classes are about to start a unit on functions and modeling. Geometry will soon be completing the unit on polygons and quadrilaterals. The next topic requires students to prove theorems about triangles using properties of similarity.

Math Club is being held on Wednesdays mornings in 5-205 at 8a.m. Everyone is welcome. We are looking to put together a team for the Mathcounts competition as well as prepare for the Seminole County Math Festival in April. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Morris at Elizabeth\_Morris@scps.k12.fl.us.

## *Language Arts*

Language Arts wrapped up Semester 1 with very powerful reviews of all the standards and strategies that they have learned so far. Starting in Semester 2, 6th grade will begin with a focus on writing and will be analyzing more classic literature--Greek myths, fairy tales, etc. Some of the 6th grade Language Arts classes will be switching to a stations model of teaching where students will work on very focused elements of the reading and writing process. Sometimes they will be led by the teacher; sometimes they will be practicing what they've learned on their own. In 7th grade, students will be reassessing their strengths and weaknesses in writing in preparation for the 3rd County FPMA practice writing test and the ever looming FSA Writing. In 8th grade, we will jump into the new semester with a focus on analyzing text with our first play "Twelve Angry Men". Students will continue to hone their skills in analyzing a text before moving back into writing at the end of January.

## *Physical Education*

PE uniforms are still available for purchase during the student's physical education classes. CASH only will be accepted. The cost is \$15.00 for the set, \$10.00 for a pair of shorts and \$8.00 for a t-shirt if purchased separately. Please encourage your son/daughter to write their name on their uniform. It is very helpful for getting lost uniforms back to the owner!!

We also recommend that students bring a Master brand combination lock to secure their valuables during class time. A locker will be assigned to them for the semester only after they bring a lock to class. We do not allow key locks to be used.

## *Medication Policy*

Please contact our Clinic at 407-320-6503 if you have questions regarding the proper procedures and documentation for students who will need to take medication during the school day. Students may not carry medication unless a form is on file with the clinic.

# Department News

## Science

### 6th Grade

Biodiversity and balance were the two key unit concepts studied by sixth-graders this past nine weeks. Variation and classification were taught about the various domains and kingdoms of life. Students practiced the taxonomy of living organisms...kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species. How to keep balance in the ecosystems, better known as homeostasis, followed up afterwards. Students learned that living organisms could experience various symbiotic relationships among other living organisms, such as predator-prey, competition, mutualism, and parasitism. The next nine weeks will shift focus onto more of the non-living, or abiotic, factors in the world. Students will deep dive into the Earth's geology with concepts about rocks, the rock cycle, and plate tectonics.

### 7th Grade

7th grade had been focusing in on Earth and Space science last semester. Students learned about how our Earth changes over time through weathering and erosion. They talked about global weather and climate patterns as well as what affects them. Then finally, they ended our semester off with our Universe. Students learned about the property of stars and were able to distinguish the characteristics of objects in space based on their size, composition and distance. Next 9 weeks students will focus on Life Science starting with some of the smallest units of life, cells and work their way up. Students will learn how cells function and maintain homeostasis (including cellular respiration and photosynthesis). Lastly, 7th graders will learn about Genetics, the building blocks of life!

### 8th Grade Physical Science

Physical Science students focused on the characteristics of waves both light and sound using models. Using prisms students modeled reflection and refraction of light. The arts were incorporated through studying artist Sydney Cash's light sculptures then students creating light art etching mirrors. Students were able to illustrate that the sun's energy arrives as radiation through the range of wavelengths by studying the Electromagnetic Spectrum. Heat flow was the second part of the 9 weeks with student demonstrating how heat flow from warmer to cooler in labs then testing this concept and the types of heat flow in the story of Goldilocks and the Three bears. The 3rd 9 weeks will begin the chemistry of 8th grade physical science beginning with properties of matter and the periodic table.

### 8th Grade Honors Environmental Science

Honors students' main concept this 9 weeks was biodiversity. To learn about how humans impact the diversity and productivity of ecosystems students analyzed a case study on the seabird mystery of the Pacific Northwest. Students diagrammed and explained the biogeochemical cycles of an ecosystem, including water, carbon and nitrogen cycle. This 9 weeks wrapped up with the conditions required for natural selection and the study of the theory of evolution through phylogenetic trees. The next 9 weeks will take environmental studies into human population size and resource use relating to environmental quality.

## World Languages

Millennium Middle School's World Language Program teaches tangible language skills through task-based activities and interactive exercises in Spanish or French. The courses feature content and authentic materials that teach culture in addition to language skills. We offer Beginning Spanish, Intermediate Spanish, Pre-IB Spanish I, Beginning French, and Intermediate French.

## Reading

Happy New Year! We have begun our second semester and we are working extremely hard in the Reading Department preparing for the FSA and working to achieve mastery in each of the Reading Standards. These standards can be found by scrolling to your students' grade level at: <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5390/urllt/0081014-lafs.pdf>

As you know, **reading is the key** to success, and in order to continue to become better readers as well as enhance vocabulary and comprehension, Millennium Middle would like to share two programs that your student can participate in.

1. **Read to Lead:** Students will read *Terror at Bottle Creek* and *Framed!*, which are two Sunshine State texts. Students will meet Thursdays from 4:15 – 5:45 to participate in Literature Circles and read these books. The best part is that later this semester the students will be able to participate in a fun competition on March 15th at one of our local middle schools. Participants will receive an original Read to Lead Falcon Shirt, transportation to and from the competition, and lunch.
2. **Battle of the Books:** Students who wish to participate in this wonderful program can stop by the Media Center and pick up their first book and Battle Notebook. Students will read Sunshine State Books and participate in a Jeopardy-like book battle later this Spring. Students will also be able to participate in a lunch bunch to discuss these books and practice answering questions based on the selected books. Participants will receive an original Battle of the Books Millennium Falcon Shirt, transportation to and from the competition, and lunch.

If you have any questions about getting your student involved in these two activities or questions about Reading, please contact instructional coach Carissa Curran at [Carissa\\_Curran@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:Carissa_Curran@scps.k12.fl.us).

## Parent Involvement Volunteer Program Opportunities

If you would like to become more involved in Millennium Middle School and the development of our students and our programs, please contact Nicole Myers at 407-320-6554 to find out more about becoming a volunteer. We would love to hear from you and discuss how you can share your time and talents with us!



## Parent Conferences

Conferences are held on Mondays and Tuesdays from 8:35 a.m. to 9:05 p.m. Please call 407-320-6558 to schedule a parent teacher conference.

## Student Check out Policy

Photo ID must be presented every time a student is checked out from school. Students can only be checked out by a parent or emergency contact. We do not accept phone calls in advance and will not call students out of class until the parent has arrived.

When parents come sign out their student(s) before the end of the school day they need to go to the front office. The front office will then call the students out of class and they will come and meet parents in the front office. Parents are not allowed to go get students from their classrooms or from lunch.

Students can be signed out up to 30 minutes before the start of dismissal.

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday - 3:15p.m.
- Wednesday - 2:15p.m.

## Bike Riders

Students who ride a bike to school should wear a helmet and lock up their bike in the designated spots on campus.

## I Missed my Bus

Parents, please make sure to have an emergency plan for when your child misses their bus home in the afternoon. Students who miss their bus must be picked up promptly.

## Rainy Day Plan

Please discuss an inclement weather plan with your student. It will eliminate confusion at dismissal.

## Lunch Account

You can manage your child's lunch account online. <http://foodservice.scps.k12.fl.us/>

## Skyward Family Access

This online program allows you to view your student's grades, attendance, and contact teachers. Come to the school and present photo ID to create an account. If you need to reset your password, use the link on the login screen to enter your email. All students can view their grades online at <https://skyward.scps.k12.fl.us> with Login: student ID # and Password: (birthdate) mmddyyyy.

## School Attendance Policy

A student enrolled in Seminole County Public Schools who is under the age of 16 is required to attend school regularly during the entire school year. It is the legal responsibility of the parent to ensure middle school student attendance. For more information, please see the Seminole County Public Schools Middle School Attendance Policy located on our school website. Any student who is absent must turned in a signed note to the office upon their return to school.

## Literacy Corner

17 Ways to Keep Your Middle Schooler Turning the Pages  
[www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com)

1. **Let your child choose what to read.** While you may cringe at his preferences, he may never touch a title if it is force-fed.
2. **Talk about what she reads.** Ask her what she thinks of a book and make connections with ideas or issues that are relevant to her life.
3. **If he is struggling or bored with a book, let him put it down.** Forcing him to stick with a difficult or dull book that is intended for pleasure will reinforce the idea that reading is a chore.
4. **Subscribe to magazines that will interest her.** Ask her to choose one or two titles and put the subscription in her name.
5. **Read the newspaper together.** Whether it is for 15 minutes over breakfast or on weekends, establish a routine and discuss what you each read.
6. **Be flexible with bedtime and chores when your child is reading.** Within reason, avoid asking your child to stop reading.
7. **Play games that utilize reading.** Word- and vocabulary-building games like Scrabble or Boggle are great, but many board games provide reading opportunities (even if it is just the instructions). Crosswords provide opportunities for learning new words and spelling practice, too.
8. **Encourage your middle-schooler to read to a younger sibling.** Letting him take over ritual reading at bedtime once a week will ensure he reads something, and he may find his sibling's enthusiasm for stories contagious.
9. **Visit the library together.** Try to make it an event where you share some quality one-on-one time and both choose a few books.
10. **Find an outlet for your child to "publish" a book review.** When she finishes a book, encourage her to write it up for a family or school newspaper, magazine, or Web site. She could also try posting a review at a local bookseller or an online retailer.
11. **Ensure he has a good reading space.** He should choose where it is, but you can make sure it is well lit and inviting so he stays a while.
12. **Keep up on what she is reading.** If you can, read a few pages of her books yourself so you can discuss them with her.
13. **Encourage writing.** Whether it is via snail- or e-mail, suggest that he keep in touch with distant friends or relatives. Keeping a journal or chronicling a family vacation will also provide reading practice.
14. **Provide a good dictionary.** She may not want to ask for your help with words anymore, so make sure she has a good reference.
15. **Suggest books from movies he liked.** He may enjoy getting even more detail in the book.
16. **Listen to books on tape in the car.** If you are heading on vacation, or even back-and-forth to school, try listening to a novel that will appeal to everyone.
17. **Model reading.** Your pre-teen will still follow your reading habits (though she will never let you know it!). Let her see you reading, make comments, and share interesting passages with her.



# Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Department celebrated many successes during the Fall semester! Theatre 3 & 4 classes along with select students from the Musical Theatre class competed in the Jr. Thespians District 2 competition. We received a record breaking 5 Critic's Choices (Best in Show): *Lexi H. (Solo Musical)*, *Emiliano B. (Scene Writing)*, *Lexi H. (Make Up Design)*, *Gabi G. (Monologue)*, and *"Proposal Gone Wrong" (Pantomime)*. They also received an Honorable Mention (2nd place Critic's Choice): *"Love Sick" (Pantomime)*.

Many students auditioned to perform in All-State musical ensembles during the Florida Music Educators Association Conference in Tampa this year. Nine chorus students (*Ascenza K, Marley S, Photini T, Mina E, Nacosi R, Victoria D, Sarah S, Claire C, and Amy F*) and two orchestra students (*Paris P. & Amanda F*) were selected to represent Millennium Middle School! Dance 3 also auditioned and won a spot in the annual Arts Alive show. Congratulations teachers and students!

We had a wonderful free concert from *ReVerb*, an all-male a cappella group from Florida State University on Sunday, December 17th. They sang a variety of holiday songs and wowed the audience. Hopefully we can invite them back next year in our new auditorium!

We are now gearing up for the many events taking place this spring. With Music Performance Assessments around the corner as well as spring shows, concerts, and other productions, it is a very busy season. Here are the exciting events coming to Millennium this semester:

## Black History Show

- **January 22** – Auditions 4:00-6:00 p.m. Please come with your audition "performance ready."
- **January 29** – Break-out rehearsals 4:00-6:00p.m.
- **February 7** – Black History Show rehearsal 4:00-6:00p.m.

## Dance

- **January 11** – Dance IV Fundraising Show Rehearsal 4:00-6:00p.m.
- **January 12** - Dance IV will present

the Dance IV Fundraising Show on January 12, 2018 at 7:00p.m. in the Walt Griffin Performing Arts Center Auditorium at Millennium Middle School. This is a special night for the dancers because rather than perform as a group of 40 they will perform self-choreographed pieces in groups of 2, 3 or 4. Some will audition and present solos. Tickets are \$4 and can be purchased from a Dance IV dancer or at the auditorium doors. Please join us to help raise money for dance clothes, costumes and accessories.

- **March 6-8** - Dance IV auditions for the 2018-2019 school year are on March 6, 7, 8, 2018 after school. Audition information and application are on the Millennium Middle School website

## Theatre

- **January 26** - Theatre 3 Show "The Velveteen Rabbit," 7:00p.m., Millennium Hall
- **March 14** – Theatre 3 & 4 Auditions, 4:00-6:00p.m.

## Band

- **January 15** – MLK Parade
- **February 23-24** – Band Solo & Ensemble
- **March 13** – Band Auditions, 4:00-6:30 p.m.

## Chorus

- **January 30** – Beginning Chorus Rehearsal (Mandatory), 4:00-6:30p.m.
- **February 1** – Beginning Chorus Concert, 7:00p.m., Millennium Hall
- **February 2** – Chorus Solo & Ensemble
- **March 11** – Musical Theatre Show
- **March 12** – Vocal Ensemble & Ladies Ensemble Auditions, 4:00-6:30p.m.

## Orchestra

- **January 20** – Seminole County String Festival, Seminole High School, 8:30a.m. - 5:00p.m.
- **February 6** – Orchestra Pre-MPA Concert, 7:00p.m., Seminole High School
- **February 13** – Orchestra Rehearsal, 4:00-6:00p.m.

- **March 1-3** – Orchestra MPA
- **March 14-15** – Orchestra Auditions (during school)

## Musical Theatre

- **February 25** – Dress Rehearsal, 9:00a.m.-4:00p.m., Millennium Hall
- **February 26** – Rehearsal, 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- **March 2** – Musical Theatre Show "Once on this Island," 7:00p.m., Millennium Hall
- **March 3** – Musical Theatre Show "Once on this Island," 2:00p.m., Millennium Hall
- **March 13** – Musical Theatre Auditions, 4:00-6:30p.m.

## Student Absences

If students are absent they need to turn in a note from a doctor or a Student Absence Notification Form (located on our school website) to the front office for the absences to be excused. The note needs to be turned in to the front office the next day back after a student has missed school with proper documentation attached. Excuses for absences will not be taken over the phone or by email because of the need for written documentation for the absence. We can only accept 10 parent excuse notes a year before we need medical documentation about absences.

## Transportation

If you have moved, it is important for you inform **both the school and the Transportation Department** of your move. You will need to turn in a Transportation Request Form with your new address. You must give the Transportation Department 7-10 business days to process this request. You can visit the school website to get a copy of these forms under the Parents - Parents M-Z – Transportation Information – Transportation Request Form.



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**January 2018**



*Aerial Photos of the New Millennium!*



*Images taken 12-19-17*

**SAC**

The School Advisory Council is a volunteer group of parents and school personnel who advise the school administration on all local issues. All community members are welcome. Meetings are held in the Media Center the 2nd Monday of each month from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. and are open to the public. Please feel free to contact Daniel Thompson @ daniel\_thompson@scps.k12.fl.us for additional information.

**Sports**

Cheerleading Tryouts will begin on January 31st. Please see Coach Roberts (robertlz@scps.k12.fl.us) for additional information.

The MMS Track Team began practicing for their upcoming season on January 11th. Sports Packets, along with fees (\$40 cash), must be turned in to Coach Cassanova or Coach Catanzaro by January 23rd.

**Track Schedule**

- **January 31** – Sanford, Teague @ Millennium (Seminole High School)
- **February 7** – Rock Lake, Galileo, Millennium @ Sanford
- **February 14** – Markham, Galileo, Teague @ Millennium (Seminole High School)
- **February 21** – Millennium, Markham Woods @ Greenwood Lakes
- **March 3** - County Meet will be held at Hagerty High School @ 8:00a.m.

**PTSA Membership**

Support our Parent Teacher Student Association and join today! For more information on how to join e-mail Polly DeLucia (pdelucia@cfl.rr.com).