

SCULPTOR NEWS

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NEWSLETTER DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2010



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER:



Core Knowledge®

The Core Knowledge Program

By: Mrs. Reneé Owens

You may have heard us say many times that Sculptor Charter School is an *Official Core Knowledge School*. What does it mean to be an Official Core Knowledge School? What exactly is Core Knowledge?

The Core Knowledge Program was developed by Dr. E.D. Hirsh who believed children were leaving school without the base of knowledge that we, as adults, take for granted. Dr. Hirsch, along with scholars, scientists, teachers, and parents, reviewed extensive research on the highest performing schools in the world. They studied the content and structure of these schools to find out

just what made these schools, and the students who studied there, so successful. From all this information, the Core Knowledge Sequence was developed.

Core Knowledge is **SOLID**. Even though information constantly changes, there are still basic things children need to know and understand. Core Knowledge is **SEQUENCED** and **SPECIFIC**. The knowledge and skills students are required to learn are clearly defined and build upon one another. Core Knowledge is **SHARED**. Literacy depends upon shared knowledge. One goal of Core Knowledge is to provide all children, regardless of background, with the shared knowledge they

need in order to be a part of our national, literate culture.

In order to be an Official Core Knowledge School, Sculptor participated in a very difficult and lengthy application process. Our school was observed over a three year period. During that time, the Core Knowledge curriculum was aligned with the Sunshine State Standards and student test scores were submitted to the Core Knowledge Foundation. At the end of the three year process, we met the stringent criteria and became an Official Core Knowledge School. Every two years we are required to renew our designation. We are proud to uphold this tradition of excellence.

"Core Knowledge: Don't Leave School Without It."

HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD WITH THE FCAT

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Testing (FCAT) begins Tuesday, March 9th. We ask that you please have your child(ren) to school before 9:00, as testing will begin right after morning announcements. **Once testing begins, we cannot admit or release a**

child to or from the classroom. We encourage any appointments to be scheduled for a different time.

Test Taking Tips:

Students, you will increase your chances of doing well if you:

Do get plenty of rest each night. This helps you pay attention and do your best work.

Do have a healthy breakfast each morning; a healthy body leads to a healthy, active mind.

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- February 12th: Valentine Chocolate Festival & Community Dance (PTO)
- February 12th & 13th: Regional Science and Engineering Fair (see pg. 2)
- February 15th: President's Day - Student Holiday
- February 15th: Love and Logic's Sally Ogden Seminar
- February 18th: Interims Issued 1st-8th grades
- February 19th: Middle School Spring Formal
- February 26th: Spring Photos-Free Dress Down
- February 26th: Mix-It Up Day



FREE!

Love and Logic Workshop
with Ms. Sally Ogden
Monday, February 15th
9:00am-3:00pm

Come join us for the day, half the day or an hour to learn how to raise responsible, happy, well-adjusted kids and restore joy to parenting! All Sculptor parents will earn double volunteer time for attending (2 for 1)!

Attention

Parents/Volunteers:

How 's your volunteer time requirement?

Look for a letter about your hours to come home soon.

Test Taking Tips --continued from pg. 1

Do arrive on time; this helps you focus on the task at hand.

Do stay relaxed and confident; remind yourself you are well-prepared and are going to do well.

Do go back (if you have time) and check your work. Review the answers to make sure you have completed all the items or to see if you have made some simple mis-

takes.

We know that we have done our best to ensure our students are well-prepared. You can contribute to a successful testing experience, by making sure your child (ren) follow these test taking tips.



FCAT EXPLORER

Attention 3rd - 8th Grade Students and Parents:

With FCAT just around the corner, don't forget to brush up on your test taking skills by logging into www.fcatexplorer.com. The student's Sign-in Name is their first name (i.e. Susan) and their Password is 005 and their last name (i.e. 005Jones).

TALENT SHOW-IMPORTANT UPDATE!



Attention parents of talented students! Due to a schedule conflict with another school club, the Sculptor Talent Show has been postponed. The changes are as follows:

- Talent Show is now **Friday, April 9, 2010** - times TBA
- Auditions will take place Tuesday, March 2, 2010, after school

FAMILY FIT FEST-THANKS FOR SUCH A GREAT DAY!

I would love to report that Saturday went wonderfully. Both Family Fit Fest and the Scorpion Scurry 5k were great successes!!! Everyone seemed to have a fantastic time laughing, exercising, and learning together. That, combined with the beautiful weather and the wealth of information from the Physicians in the Round, made for a very "beneficial" day.

A special thank you to all the volunteers as well as the great families and friends of Sculptor. I certainly could not have pulled off the day without your support. I would also like to recognize my students. I was very proud of your courage to run the race and that you gave your very best!!! Way to Go & Thanks!!!!

To all participants and contributors, I found your generosity and selflessness to the Gehlman family awe-inspiring! -Coach Kirk



Reminder!

FCAT DATES:

Grades 3rd-8th

Reading and Math &

Grades 5th and 8th Science

March 9-19, 2010

PLEASE have your children attend school on all FCAT testing days.

PLEASE schedule appointments for a different time.

ALL STUDENTS MUST COMPLY WITH THE NO ELECTRONIC ZONE RULE AT SCULPTOR, ESPECIALLY DURING FCAT TESTING DAYS!



We do not want any of your hard work to be invalidated due to use of personal electronic equipment.



Watch for your child's Sculptor Renewal form for next school year, 2010-2011.

When: March 18, 2010
Check mark and sign the bottom and promptly return to your child's teacher for next year's reservation.

Re-Application Deadline: Thursday, March 25, 2010

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sculptor would really appreciate volunteer help with the following projects:

- Any time you have an hour or two, we would appreciate volunteers that can "fluff" & rake the playgrounds to help maintain the proper mulch levels.
- Volunteers Needed for Sculptor's Spring Scholastic book fair: April 12th - 16th. Please contact Mrs. Widmeier via email (widmeiere@sculptorcharter.org) or phone 264-9991 ext. 157, if you can volunteer.

SCIENCE RESEARCH FAIR

Sculptor Science Research students will present their projects at the Regional Science and Engineering Fair on February 12th and 13th at the Merritt Square Mall. The Science and Engineering Fair Awards Ceremony will be held February 13th in the Merritt Island High School auditorium at 6:30pm.



GOOD LUCK SCORPIONS!!!!