



EST. 1986

CELEBRATING 37 YEARS
of ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

FLiP Times

FLPS Student Newsletter

DECEMBER 2022
2nd Edition

SCHOOL CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2022

12/26-1/6 **School Closed**
(10 days)
Winter Vacation

JANUARY 2023

1/9 School Resumes

1/9-13 (Grades 7 -12)
1st Semester Exam
Reviews

1/16 **School Closed**
MLK Day

1/17 (Grades 7 – 12)
1st Semester Exams

Dismissal 2:00 p.m.
for ALL STUDENTS

1/18-19 (Grades 7 – 12)
1st Semester Exams

Dismissal 12:00 p.m.
for ALL STUDENTS

1/20 **School Closed**
Teacher Work Day

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Faculty

Mr. Hodge
Mr. Almanzar
Mr. Lonstein

Reporters

Ethan Amedee
Imani Burris Cameron
Zachee Casimir
Jovannah Charles
Job Celicourt
Kylah Curah
Saby Eugene
De'azah Fernandez
Rahjada Gumbs
Madison Lewis
Austin McLymont
Malachi Merchant
Marsha Moreau
MicDyna Saimphar
Akeem Simpson
Zaria Thompson
Vladimir Toussaint
Kyandre Willie

Elementary Arts Program

By MicDyna Saimphar

Artists utilize their distinct style of artwork to express their thoughts and feelings. Throughout history, the relevance and value of art and of the artist to society, have remained consistent. The artist's creation produces a unique way of interpreting the world and the society around us. Interpreting art is influenced by people's or artist's experiences, associations, visionary thinking, and cultures.

Why is art important for kids, especially students in elementary you may ask? "Art stimulates children's senses and promotes the development of cognitive, social-emotional, and multisensory skills. Art continues to give chances for brain growth, mastery, self-esteem, and creativity as children go through elementary school and beyond."



At Fort Lauderdale Prep School (FLPS), the 'arts' are encouraged to foster creativity within the students. The Art class at FLP is a great way to break the monotony of core subjects at the school. It allows the students express their own unique style. Our Art teacher is eager to find ways to impact a child's life and look to create cross learning curriculum with the core curriculum and see the intersection of art in both math and reading. Shapes and dimension

play a bring role in math into art and having students thinking outside the box help then becomes more analytical. Art also can also aid in problem solving skills and art students can become more social.

Art instruction revolves around a different teaching style which allows the kids to see learning as fun. The children's eyes are filled with joy when they get to be free and creative. Art brings positivity through knowing that one has created something that is fun. The children also learn that perfection is not always the goal and mistakes helps us to learn more. Art, like love, has a plethora of meanings and examples. As a result, I feel that art is not about perfection; rather, art is something that continues to evolve and flourish as it is seen, opening up all generations of emotions, thoughts, and human possibilities.



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The “M” in Math is synonymous with Mr. Molloy

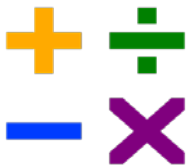
By Zachee Casimir

When you think about numbers and variables at FLPS, the name that comes to mind, is Mr. Molloy. He is a Math teacher at Fort Lauderdale Prep School and teaches all math subjects for students in grades 7 - 12. He has been in the field of education for decades and with FLPS for the last eight years and he loves numbers. Mr. Molloy always wanted to become a teacher. He likes working with kids and he loves the schedule that being in the field of teaching provides. For the past 20+ years, Mr. Molloy has been employed at three different schools. However, Mr. Molloy has planted roots at Fort Lauderdale Preparatory and says he has found his home. During a sabbatical from education, he took a job working with computer systems. However, his love for education never stopped as he continued to do after school tutoring.



On his journey to becoming a teacher, Mr. Molloy attended Towson University where he acquired a Bachelors of Science In Elementary Education as well as a degree in Special Education. He has his teaching certification in both Maryland and Florida. Mr. Molloy has taught many grade levels ranging from 4th - 12th. Because he has taught so many grade levels, he has

had the opportunity to teach all the core subjects, however, he has always had an affinity for math and he strongly believes that math is important and useful in everyone’s life.



Mr. Molloy is a very goal driven person and he is also determined. He wants to continue teaching for as long as possible. However, he states when he does retire, he would like to travel. His love for teaching has also lead him to his role as one of the mentors for new teachers at FLPS. He works with the

new teachers on record keeping, lesson planning and helps them to adjust and feel comfortable at the school. He is open to new strategies of teaching and is now using the IXL online Math learning program with some of his classes. His purpose for teaching is ensuring that every child in his class walks away with knowledge of math. He wants to see learning gains and wants the best for all his students. Mr. Molloy lives by these quotes, “ You will only regret your words, never your silence” and “No Day but Today.”

Teaching Them Young

By Malachi Merchant

In FLP's computer lab, students are taught many things about the cybernetic world and how to put those skills to real use, by our technology teacher Mr. Almanzar. The program was established as a means to get the children prepared for the ever changing world of technology. The program includes all students grades K-12 as technology can benefit students at all ages. The FLP computer program includes many skills including how to increase typing speed and accuracy, how to use Microsoft office (WORD, PowerPoint, Excel & Access), and how to safely use the internet. Thus far, the program has been going very well for the students and they seem to enjoy the class. Relative to the students' skills and interests, the program has varied levels of challenging curriculum. Younger students start off easy with repetitive typing to help boost their typing speeds and then move on to the more advanced exercises involving creating and formatting documents.



During my interview with kids they say that they really enjoy the program and that it really helps them with research and schoolwork, which is the main focus. The main purpose of this program is to show kids that technology may sometimes look useless and dull, but it's actually something you need to know to help with your future and how to achieve it. With increased

typing speed they'll learn how to type faster essays and reports which is a really good skill that'll help anybody in school. Learning how to use Microsoft WORD is an absolute fundamental thing to know. WORD is everybody's friend when typing those horrible and dreary essays, but then that's when the speed comes in handy, helping one finish, fast like flash. In the class it is also important to learn all about the computer itself and how to use the internet safely.

This program is something needed and well deserved. Learning technology skills at any age makes learning overall easier. When we are young our brains are like sponges trying to soak up as many things as possible. All students need a program like this so that they'll always be ahead of the crowd.

Painting a Mosaic with Words The Power of the Novel

By De'azah Fernandez



The normal rumble of chatter that typically echoes around the lunch patio was silent students at Fort Lauderdale Prep School were engaged in a different activity. While sitting on the patio in the morning, before school started, numerous children were with their heads facing down, riveted by They were questioning the actions of the characters and flabbergasted by the twist and turns of the plot. The students seemed

engaged in the novel they were reading, as they discussed the chapters in small groups. The students were so eager to learn that you could overhear them anticipating class and discussing the novel.

Early this school year all the English classes were assigned a different novel to read based on their grade level. The four novels assigned this school year were "**The Other Wes Moore**", "**The Giver**", "**Watership Down**", and "**Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry**." These novels were assigned during the 1st marking period and were completed by the time 2nd marking period began. To check the student's understanding of the text they were reading, our English teacher Mr. Hodge conducted class discussions along with daily vocabulary and or reading comprehension quizzes. The discussions in the class were interesting and pretty much everyone was raising their hands to answer questions. Mr. Hodge reported that "the assessments allow me to gauge how much the students understood of the reading and in a sense, forces them to read. "At first the students seemed uninterested, but at the weeks went by the students became wrapped in the novels and was even reading ahead to just because they could not wait and wanted to know what happened next.

The novels read 1st marking period ranged from science fiction, to semi autobiographical to historical content and societal constructs. Students felt in many cases that they could relate to the characters in the novels. One of the male students stated that they could be **The Other Wes Moore**, and that the story could have been his own.

Despite the normal complaints about the rigor and amount of work assigned students kept up and were challenged. The interest brought students closer together. At the end of the marking period, students were requesting to read more novels during the remainder of the school year.

Words are powerful and they are able to transport one to place other than their own. To see the students at FLP light up while reading, shows that they have an affinity for words. If this is any indication of how to keep the students occupied and immersed in the text, then continuing with painting pictures with words shall continue.

School Pictures

By Kylah Curah

Click, click. People, it's that time of the year again. the moment when you must present your finest self to the camera, when you must perfect your smile and your hair to be 'picture-perfect'. It's picture day. Through the lens, we see flawless hair, prim and proper attire, and occasionally fake grins and joyful expressions. But things behind the scenes are not always what they seem. Anxieties lurk beneath those smiles, such as: what if I smile incorrectly; oh no; did I blink; is my hair okay; where did my tie go; etc.

Picture day is the day when anxiety and perfection emerge from hiding. I asked a few students about their experiences on that day as I made my way across the school. They all echoed the same statement, "I felt anxious." They all described how, despite having done it previously, the experience still makes them uneasy. I was able to assist on picture day, so I can unequivocally state that the boys were far more unconcerned. As they put it, 'picture day' is just another day. To some extent, I can understand, but it would be embarrassing for me if youngsters saw my images and thought I looked like a loser.

The guys arrived without a haircut and wearing school clothes that appeared to have been dumped by a tornado. Some of them, at least, had the decency to dress properly. On the other hand, the girls made a huge deal out of it. Clothing was pressed and ironed, with perfect hair and perfectly placed edges. They appeared to be prepared from the outside, but they are actually a complete disaster inside. I recall how the girls would swarm the restroom to apply eyelashes and put gel in their hair. For them, picture day was a highly important event. Like the boys, the younger kids showed little if no concern. I honestly doubt that most of them understood what was going on.

Even while capturing the photos is vital, choosing them might be challenging. I spoke with Ms. Kelly about it. She explained to me how some of them decide which photo to use for the yearbook. In order for the parents to purchase these images, they are sent the individual and sibling photos. Retakes and make-ups are done a few weeks later. And if you're wondering why the prices for photos are so exorbitant, it's because the school hires a professional photography firm and they set those prices. Picture day is a time when excellence should triumph over all other attributes. So, let it shine.

Mrs. Dykens

By Madison Lewis



Who is Michelle Dykens and why is she so loved at Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School? Michelle Dykens is an exceptional teacher, who has been teaching for the last forty-three years. She is well-known and loved by the community here at Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School.

She has been with the school for decades and is considered to be a great teacher and tutor, and both a nurturing and concerned counselor.

A proverbial mother-figure to all of her students. Students enjoy all of her classes and find they are always able to grasp the materials quickly. Her style of teaching is effective. She is able to capture her student's attention with insightful dialogue, as well as connect the lesson to their everyday lives. However, she isn't just a teacher; she also has many other responsibilities at the school. She assists with admission testing for new students, reviewing and updating IEP's and writing IEP's for new students. Despite her many roles at the school, she also is the caregiver to Scotty, the school's pet turtle who has been here 25 years and she took care of the school lizard McCoy for years, until he passed away. She also cares for and feeds the stray cats that linger outside the school. She has a heart of gold and would go above and beyond for the children and animals.

Ever since she was fifteen, Mrs. Dykens has always had a passion to help all kids. She is especially skilled at reaching those struggling with learning, or physical disabilities. During her many summers, she would volunteer at camps or places that provide services to children with many different types of disabilities like kids with autism, children who are handicapped, deaf, or with cerebral palsy. She has always found enjoyment in helping out children with their homework, watching over them, helping them get ready for the day and with all of the basic needs. After high school, she went to college at William Patterson, a college that is in her hometown state of New Jersey. She went to William Patterson and graduated with three degrees: Elementary, Special Ed, and Early childhood. Ever since then, she has taught basically every core subject you can name, English, Algebra, Pre-Algebra, Science, and Social Studies.

In the over 2 decades she has been with Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School, she has taught in most of the classrooms and in both lower, middle and upper school. She began teaching eighth grade and then sixth in New Jersey. When Mrs. Dykens first moved to Florida in 1983, she taught a multi-graded class of children with learning challenges.



Over the course of her forty-three years of teaching, since 1978, if she didn't love teaching, she would never have had such a profound impact on the lives she has deeply influenced and helped over the years. Past students who are now adults stay in contact and write letters to her today.

She loves what she does and she loves children and relishes what all the help has contributed to her own life. For all of her students she has set out goals for them to be successful life, wherever they go. She wants them to make something out of themselves and to do great in their future. Mrs. Dykens has two favorite quotes. "When you have lemons - make lemonade" and "I am an optimist and think everything can be better in life if you are positive". Mrs. Dykens plans to retire in the next 3-4 years and hopes then have more time to enjoy her family and to travel.

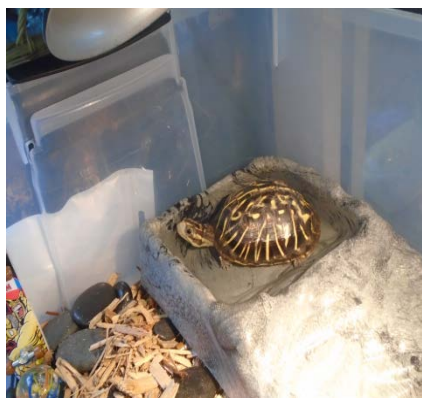


Mr. L's Florida Box Turtle

By Jovannah Charles

The Florida box turtle is a subspecies of turtle that is in Florida and southern Georgia. It is an omnivore that does not hibernate in the winter. Florida box turtles live in areas such as swamps, damp forests, and marshes. Yet, one also resides at Fort Lauderdale Prep. I asked Mr. L about it.

Mr. Lonstein (Mr. L) adopted an infant 'rescued' Florida Box turtle about 5 years ago. The turtle had been found shortly after it was born, close to drowning in a person's pool, out west in Florida City. The turtle named Ms Shelly, lives at his house and he brings her with him to school most days. Shelly sits above his desk on a shelf in a plastic terrarium with a heat light and a light that emits Vitamin D. He has had a lot to say about her. As there are a lot of interesting things to hear about this amazing species of turtle! Read this article to find out more about this cute Floridian creature.



The most important pieces of information are the origins of Mr. Lonstein's Florida box turtle. When asked about where the turtle was found he had this to say: "I was shopping for plants in Everglade City, and a lady who rescued turtles talked me into adopting one." Mr. L also says, "I got it

before the pandemic, so she is approaching 5 five years old. The reason he adopted the turtle? "She appealed to my need to help things." I think that is a wonderful reason to give his turtle a new home, as well as a new name. Mr. L said he named her Shelly as a result of finding out she was a girl and her having a cool striped shell.

Additionally, there are also things the turtle likes to do and eat. While interviewing Mr. L, I asked him what the turtle eats. "She likes green leafy stuff, sweet stuff, mushrooms, and box turtle food." The box turtle food consists of veggies, which line up with the diet of most Florida box turtles. They are omnivores that eat small bugs, mushrooms, fruits, and other vegetation. As well as food, Florida box turtles also need space. Mr. L told me that he does let her walk around when at home. Furthermore, he is teaching her to ride a small skateboard. All in all, Florida box turtles are a very interesting Florida species. Especially Mr. L's turtle.

1st Marking Period Reviews Do Study Guides help?

By Job Celicourt

"We have Exams?" That's what many of the students say near the end of the marking period. Having exams can be very intimidating; it can also be very nerve-racking. Many students have different emotions when it comes to taking the exams.



At Fort Lauderdale Prep School students have an exam after every marking period. Before every exam students are given a review a few days before the exam. Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School has six marking periods, which means there are 5 marking period exams, including Midterms and

Finals. During the 5th marking period, students take their standardized tests, so they don't also take end of marking period exams. But in all cases the exams are given as a way to assess how much the students have learned throughout the marking period.

The students at Fort Lauderdale Preparatory have many different feelings about the review. The majority of the students feel that the redundancy of writing the guide more than once is not necessary. One freshman expressed that the marking period reviews has been very helpful; however, it was a tedious task. Another student stated that she liked the fact that she is required to write the review more than once. She said that it helped her to review and study for the exam. A majority of the students feel that having reviews is important and that it improves and refreshes their memory on the material they may have forgotten about. They also said it was a good way to help them study for the test, but they felt that they didn't always have enough time to finish the study guide and have time to study.

One teacher told me that study guides are required to be given out because it better enhances the performance of the students during the test. Lastly, some students told me they were happy that study guides were given out during the review period, and that it gave us time to go over topics from that past that weren't remembered. In conclusion, many students felt study guides were needed and they must be used that they are a helpful tool. It helped them make sense of many things forgotten at the beginning of the school year, and remember the details that were left behind. I am part of the group that think that the reviews are a crucial key in helping prepare for exams.

Education and Mrs. Bradley

By Imani Burris Cameron



Every child has that one teacher who is both a nurturer and an educator at the same time. When I think of who at Fort Lauderdale Prep is that for me, the first teacher that comes to my mind is Mrs. Carolyn Bradley, or as everyone calls her, simply Ms. Bradley. She is an epitome of an exemplary teacher when it comes to catering to children's needs. She is welcoming to all and eager to teach both those who are willing to learn, as well as those she feels needs that extra added attention and time. This type of teacher is rare and the skills she possesses come from years of being in the classroom. She has been a teacher at FLP for over sixteen years.

From a young age, Ms. Bradley always knew that she wanted to become a teacher. When asked why she wanted to be in the world of education her response was, "I had teachers that weren't as understanding as I needed them to be and they didn't really care for their students. So in order to make a change, I knew I had to be that change." So Ms. Bradley set off to be an example that her teachers should have been for her, when she was a child. Before her teaching life began, she went to the University of New Hampshire and the University of New England. Carolyn majored in Education and received her Bachelor's of Arts, two Masters and Certification of Advance Graduate studies (C.A.G.S) in Education.

After graduating college Carolyn became a professor at the University of New Hampshire. Carolyn then retired from being a professor and became a Principal at an elementary school. After she resigned as principle, she came to Florida to visit a friend. Carolyn's friend worked at Fort Lauderdale Preparatory and she was able to visit the school on several occasions. While visiting she fell in love with the school and its students. She then moved to Florida and went back into the field of education. She started working at the prestigious Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School, where eventually she took on the roles of teacher, and then as an administrator. As an elementary teacher she taught all the core subjects: Social Studies, English, Math and Science. She is enthusiastic about education and enjoys every moment in the classroom. When asked what her expectations are for her students she stated, "when a student is willing to try and to do their best and do their part, she welcomes them with open arms. Her only goal is for a student to be able to say, "I learned a great deal from Ms. Bradley."

Ms. Bradley wants to stay in the education system until she physically cannot. She loves her students and Fort Lauderdale Prep. During her career Ms Bradley has taught every grade from third to graduate school. She has retired over three times and has still found her way back to being in the world of education. Every child needs a teacher like Ms. Bradley and I am proud to say that I had her as a teacher.

Elementary Dance Program

By Zaria Thompson



There is a new elementary dance program at FLPS. The teacher in charge is Ms. Tyquisha Braynen, as the kids call her, Ms. Beyonce. program is part of the specials elementary students have and is both educational and fun, as the kids get to learn new dance skills.

Students get to be creative and to be interactive in that class. Even the songs they play are entertaining to the kids and let them connect more with each other and with dance.

Each class is different depending on the students grade level, but they all learn new dances which can help with teaching them how to remember things, which is a good skill to have. Sometimes it can be hard to learn new dances, but the students have learned and enjoyed doing many of them. There dance to all types of music like rap, pop, and R&B.

In dance class, students are encouraged to be creative and the movement allows them to stay active.

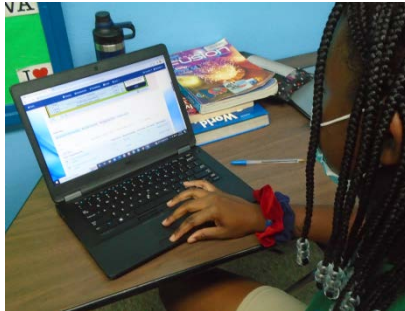
Sometimes the kids get to go home and make up their own dances, to then show to the class the next day. Also, did you know that there are games that include dancing? They play games like this in class. It makes dance class more fun to the kids and they get to have even more fun. This class lets the kids be more active and have fun at the same time. There are warm ups and exercises that they do before they dance. On some days they can do normal stretching and on other days they can do simple dances like the Cha-Cha Slide. The class helps them improve muscles, flexibility, and balance.

For both young and older, it is healthy for all of us to stay active. I think the new dance program is a great idea. It lets students move and have fun as they learn different new skills. They get to interact with everyone and create movements on their own. The songs help them understand better and they learn new dance skills that they may have not known before. All in all, the program is great!

Computing Casualties

By Rahjada Gumbs

For the 2022-2023 school year, Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School purchased new laptops for the computer lab. This investment was made due to the increasing use of computers in general by all students and with higher enrollment and more students taking one or two Florida Virtual School classes.

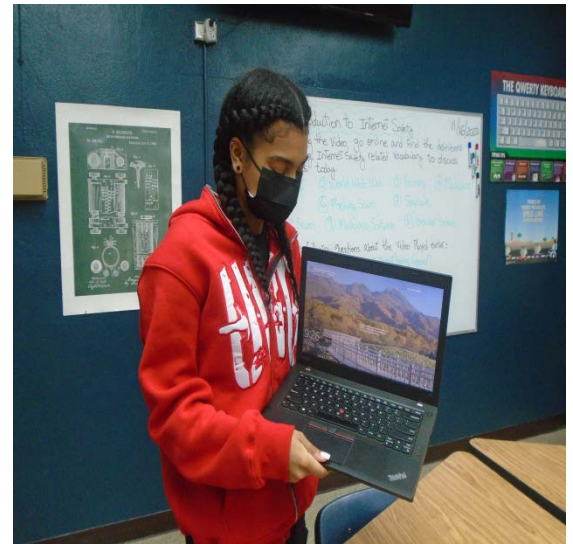


The computers are available to students for classwork, homework and to log in to any online classes to complete modules and assignments.

Students can sign out laptops any time they need one and during their study hall. Students are assigned a specific laptop which they use during that school year.

After sitting down with some of the students, along with the computer teacher Mr. Almanzar, everyone has agreed that the new laptops are a great addition to the school. The students reported that it helps them out drastically to complete their work. Some of them reported that according to Mr. Almanzar the new laptops are faster and the battery life lasts longer. With the new laptops the school year has begun even smoother than normal.

So as you walk by class and see students with their faces focused on their computer screens, know that FLPS ensures that its students have all the opportunities and tools needed to achieve success.



Our Amazing Ms. Kelly The Headmistress

By Ethan Amedee & Kyandre Willie

The name Ms. Kelly Lonstein is synonymous with FLPS. She is prominent figure at the school and helps makes the school run better and more fun. Ms. Kelly is the Headmistress, which is an administrative position at FLPS. She does administrative works as well as registrar work related to grades, and she is in charge of many of the extracurricular activities at school. She is a busy person. Have you guys wondered when Ms. Kelly started working at FLPS, or if she wanted to be a part of the education system? Probably one of the most important questions, is she thinking about retiring? By the end of this article, all of these questions will be answered. Ms. Kelly is an important person at Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School.



The reason why she started this job has to do with her husband Marc, one of Mrs. Anita Lonstein's sons. They were working at the same company at the time and both decided to leave that company and he told her about his mom's school and suggested she interview for a position there.

She started out as a secretary in 1992 and the rest is history. In the beginning, Ms. Kelly never thought about being a part of an education system. She always wanted to work in an office setting, but imagined that it would be somewhere different. She quickly adapted to working in the education field and grasped the information rapidly.

Ms. Kelly graduated college and she got her BA Business Administration. Although she works in an educational system, she never was a teacher. She has substituted though in the absence of teachers and she is very knowledgeable about the core subjects. She wears many hats in the school and has even taken the role of caregiver to some the school pets and other animals. Ms. Kelly is an animal lover and owns several of them. She has multiple cats, and she even has a bird inside her cubicle at the school.

Despite at times, her stern demeanor, she is a very nice and fun person to be around. Some students who don't know her as well may only see the strict side of her, as Ms Kelly definitely believes that students need to be respectful and to follow the rules, but in actuality she is really fastidious and quite fun at the same time.



According to Ms. Kelly, "depending on the school year, it's sometimes easier or harder" and feels that is normal for a small, close knit school.

Ms. Kelly is all about her work but also has a fun side. Currently she coordinates the dance competition and runs one of the

school clubs too, a Harry Potter club. You may wonder what you would do in that type of club. She is very creative and the activities she selects are all super fun. She even runs a competition for 'Quidditch', a game that is similar to the game played in the movies, but our brooms don't fly. It has become so popular at the school that there are competitions against students in other clubs. Also, she has overseen the school wide dance and lip-sync battles, and directed several of the school plays. She does this out of her desire to ensure the students not only excel in academics but also have many other type opportunities to become well rounded and to learn to socialize well with others.



If you get to know Ms. Kelly, you would see that she has heart of gold. She would help you out with any problem, all you have to do is talk to her. When you do you will see the type of person she really is: caring, concerned, smart, and fun. She is the epitome of the saying "never judge a book by its cover." Ms. Kelly has not contemplated retirement in the near future. Ms. Kelly really works hard and dedicates her time so they school continues to run efficiently. So the next time you walking in the hallways stop by and be sure to say hello, you won't be disappointed.

Classroom Door Locks and Safety

By Saby Eugene

There have been 129 school shootings in the US since the 2018. Due to the rise of mass school shootings, many ask themselves, how do the shooters enter the classrooms so easily. Many school boards that have been trying to find ways to prevent shooters from being able to enter classrooms easily have come up with quite a few solutions. One that seems highly effective is locking the classroom doors from the inside.



Teachers are usually instructed to lock the classroom doors when exiting, but, for a totally different reason; it is for safety and security and to protect anything from being stolen. Many schools have plans to 'harden' their doors, but there are a lot of schools that cannot do this because of lack of money, logistics and local fire and safety regulations. Classroom doors usually are not locked, because they are full of students and in case of a fire or other emergency you want it easy to make a quick and exit from the building. Here at FLP, we are trying to do our part, by 'hardening' all of the school's classroom doors with new advanced feature safety locks and the exterior doors with combination code locks. FLP also added additional security cameras both inside and outside of the building. With all these precautions you may be wondering how student's are able to enter the school building. At FLP teachers have wireless remotes that release the locked doors when students need to enter the side door. The school's main entrance has a door bell and buzzer system. Teachers have their own code to enter the building. This is all done to protect students.

School shootings are horrible and very unexpected events. The only thing you can do is prepare, as you may never know when it could happen. Fort Lauderdale Prep has followed all the rules to ensure its student and staff's safety. FLP will continue to think about and come up with new ideas to help to ensure the safety of all.

Back2School Night Welcome to FLPS

By Akeem Simpson

Welcome to Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School was echoing in the hallway as parents were greeted at the entrance to the school on Back to School night. As the parents walked in, with eager looks on their faces, as they anticipated meeting their children's teachers.

The Back-2-School Parent Night was designed for the parents to meet the teacher and learn around their goals and expectations for the school year and the curriculum. Parents were given a schedule that followed their child's program in 10 minute increments, switching from class to class.



Teachers talked about grades, attitudes and the best ways to succeed. They also learned about school programs, clubs

and other activities. Back2School 2022 was a great success. Mr. Hodge, our English teacher stated "there should be more Parent nights, because it gives the parents more opportunities to interact with our teachers and administrators".

Parents also had a chance to roam the hallways, check out student artwork and refreshments were served. Mr. Molloy gave parents a sample 10-minute math lesson in his classroom. If any parents wanted a parent teacher conference, they saw Ms. Yvette in the front office area to get that scheduled.



We should continue having Back2School nights for parents because it helps them learn and know about the school and meet the teachers.

Pirate Day

By Austin McLymont & Marsha Moreau

Ahoy, me Hearties! This is a day dedicated to us Pirates. Pirate Day started in 1995 when it was originally called 'International Talk Like a Pirate Day'. However as the years went by, it got changed to just 'Pirate Day'. John and Mark Summers of Albany came up with the day and proclaimed that every 19th of September, everyone should talk and act like a pirate. FLP decided to adopt the tradition of Pirate Day and it has been a part of school's Spirit Days for years! The day was to pay homage all pirates but especially Captain Jack Sparrow from the movie, *The Pirates of the Caribbean*.

You might be wondering why you would want to celebrate a day where you dress as a pirate for a day. It all started as dress down day for the elementary student when they did not have to wear their traditional school uniform. The school would purchase eye patches and pirates hats and distribute them to the children first thing in the morning. The students would do activities in the classroom which would have a pirate theme in each lesson. They would also take pictures to commemorate the moment.

The staff also partakes in the in the festivities and dresses up and give candy coins out to the students. In the past they have even had the students rummage through a treasure chest which was full of toys and candy.



Many students at FLPS enjoy Pirate Day, especially the elementary kids. "I really like dressing up for Pirate Day, just like Jake the Pirate," said a third grade student. "Pirate Day is fun, we get to find treasure and play pirate games in class," said many of the elementary students. As for the student in high school, they enjoy the day and love to help out in the classrooms of the younger children. "Pirate Day is a really special day and they enjoy participating, a "and get to act like a pirate with my friends," said a ninth grader at the school.

Everyone at the school enjoys Pirate Day! These days, the entire school participates and from what I observe a good time was had by all. While participation is not mandatory, most everyone take part in it because it's fun, easy to do and who doesn't want to be a pirate? Hope to see you dressed up as a pirate next year. AHOY!

Say Hello to Mr. Tacher

By Vladimir Toussaint

While walking around the campus of Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School you may have noticed a slender, fair skinned gentleman moving inconspicuously in and out of the Mrs. Lonstein's office. He is not a man of many words, but he greets everyone he encounters walking through the hallways. Although you don't see him on a regular basis, this individual plays a vital role for the school. He stays behind the scenes and makes sure that the school bills and financials are correct and in order. Who is this individual you ask?

His name is Mr. Tacher. Mr. Tacher has been working at Fort Lauderdale Preparatory School for about 5 years as its bookkeeper; he has been an accountant for 30 years. He only comes to the school on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but his work is very important. He is the manager of all receivables and accounts payable. The work he does is important and he is good at his job.

When Mr. Tacher was young he dreamed of become a cognitive psychologist and in 1984, he got his bachelor's degree in psychology, but within a year, one of his professors discouraged him from being one, because he felt that many of the most pressing cognitive issues at that times were resolved and the job market not strong. His father encouraged him to become an accountant due to him being great in math, so he gave it a try and became one. In 1994, he earned his master's in business and started his own firm helping other businesses with their accounting and money issues. He has many clients and assists many different companies. In order for him to stay licensed, he takes continuing education classes yearly.

Mr. Tacher enjoys reading, spending quality time with his wife, and watching sports. He has three sons; Steven, Brian and Daniel, that all attended and graduated from FLP. Steven is the oldest. He graduated from FLP in 2008 as class valedictorian, and went on to earn his Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies. Brian, the second oldest, graduated from FLP in 2010, he also has earned a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies. The youngest son Daniel, graduated from FLP in 2013 as class valedictorian. He has since earned his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. All three brothers currently live together and in Mr. Tacher's words, "are best friends."