December

STATE FLOAT PROJECT



















FEATURING OUR
3RD GRADE STUDENTS









Great American Teach In 2022



Great American Teach In 2022



A special Thank You to all who participated in our Great American Teach In 2022

Brian Infantino, Realtor
Mr. Ayo and service dog "Coco"
Mrs. Harris
USF cheerleaders

Raymond James Executive Chef Brant Lewis of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Lanky Lassie's Shortbread

Mr. Poole representing the U.S. Army Pasco County Fire Department Station 29

M&D Gator Inc.

Steve Morph

Beth Rooks

Fagan Alligator Farms
Emily Lastowski with Cal-Maine Foods

Ms. Allen

Engineer Hunter Brown from Coastal Design Consultants

Jeff Redman from Sam's club online Retail

Brittany Redman, Realtor

Author, Sarah Christansen

Meridian Counseling Center

Mr. and Mrs. Tellier from PCSO and their k9 unit

Withlacoochie River Electric

Mr. Grant from Slater Grant Law

Captain Rollins with Hernando Co. FD, Engine 27

Yoga Instructor Ms. Willow

CRY-X Whole Body Cryotherapy & Cryoskin

Bobbi Madonna from Mander Law Firm

Davy Johnson from DC Johnson Surveying



PRESCHOOL PAGE







Ms Catherine and Ms. Alyssa's class enjoyed a popsicle party from a raffle

experience winner





Preschool students enjoyed some Pre-Thanksgiving fun by creating a Turkey treat to enjoy and eat!

PRIMARYPLACE





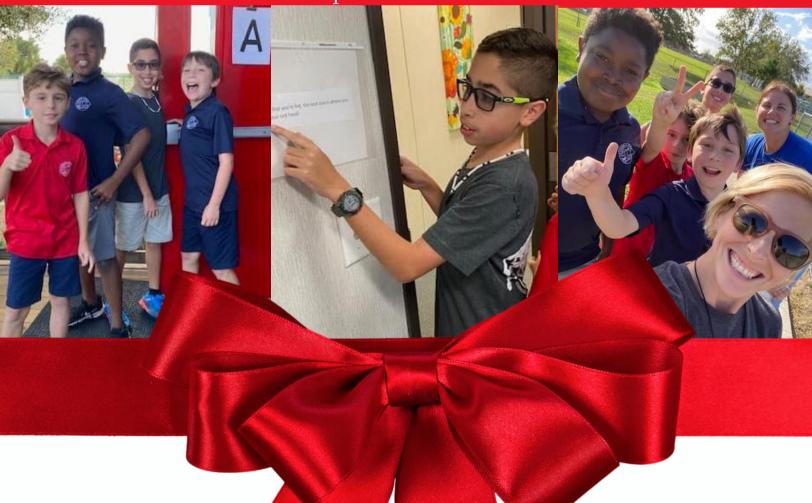
Intermediate Happenings

4th Grade students showing their school spirit for Mathlete Vs. Athlete Dress Day

Mrs. Daughtry and Mrs. Reeves had fun with some students. They made slime and had pizza



Mrs. Guiliano and Mrs. Ward did a scavenger hunt with their school experience raffle winner.







AG Page



FFA: Probably NOT the Future Farmers

Many of us hear "FFA" and immediately think "Future Farmers of America" and that is an accurate assumption to make. In 1917, the Smith-Hughes Act was put into place to transform education from an environment where students memorized formulas and definitions to a hands-on learning approach to provide a practical learning experience for the children of that time. They were taught lessons in agriculture and farming techniques- a much needed educational priority during this time period. By 1928, the Future Farmers of America was established to provide an organization for like minded students to grow their skills. Throughout the years the FFA has grown in many ways. In 1965, the NFA joined the FFA to end segregation. In 1970, the first women delegates served at the FFA convention and today, the FFA, or National FFA Organization, has been established as an organization that isn't just for kids who want to grow up to be farmers.

If you were to spend a day in the life of an FFA member at Academy at the Farm you would be proud and honored to know that these kids are a part of our school. The Academy at the Farm FFA was chartered just 5 years ago. Our first members are now seniors in high school. Some of them continued to be FFA members and others went on to explore other opportunities after leaving the Academy. However, in the last 5 years all of our FFA members have been able to learn valuable lessons about life that have nothing to do with farming.

Students who take agriculture classes at Academy at the Farm are immersed in the world of FFA whether they want to be or not. They all complete foundational SAE (Supervised Agriculture Experience) projects in our Exploration of Agriscience Course. During this course, they take career surveys and research various careers that they might strive to pursue as young adults. They research the need for that job, where they can get training for that job, and how FFA can serve them in preparing to do that job in the future. They are also required to give a prepared public speech during this course- something many of them do not look forward to.







AG Page



However, seeing the students give these speeches is truly wonderful. They develop and grow so much as presenters, but also learn how to be a good listener and audience member. In the agriculture classes the students spend 50% of their class time outside working on the school farm- cleaning, pulling weeds, feeding animals, working with animals, etc. Yes- those do all sound like "farming skills' but I guarantee that a kid that knows how to properly pull a weed is hard to come by- they know how to do a tedious, boring job the right way and are encouraged to do it with pride in their work. People that take pride in all of the work they do are the ones we want working in the future.

In the last 5 years, our FFA has received the Premier FFA Chapter Award 2 times. This is due largely in part to the hard work our officer team does to create a wonderful Program of Activities and the extraordinary work our FFA members do in participating in and supporting the activities. This year, our FFA members have once again qualified for the State Tool ID finals to be held on December 8th. On December 1st, we will have students competing in Livestock Evaluation, Dairy Evaluation, Poultry Evaluation, and Horse Evaluation. These students will have the opportunity to apply knowledge they have gained through their FFA experiences in the hopes of moving on to the next level of competition. Again, these do sound like very "farmer" type activities, but they also build skills in public speaking, reasoning, and keen observation. All skills that are highly valued in the workplace. On December 13th, many of our FFA members will be competing in sub-district events: Creed Speaking, Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Prepared Speaking, and Extemporaneous Speaking. All of which build valuable skills.

Being an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor is hard- it requires a lot of extra time that isn't usually noticed by others- weekends, holiday breaks, and even the middle of the night (Yes, goats having babies in the middle of the night means that I might be here). However, having the opportunity to mentor and support youth through these animals, projects, and competitions so that they can be the best representation of humanity as they go to high school, college, and their career makes it all worth it. I expect that most of our FFA members will not be involved in farming or agriculture as they pursue careers, but I know that this time in their life will hold great value to their development as a person and for that I will keep putting one foot in front of the other to make it all happen!



AG Page





22-23 FFA Chapter officers

Counselors Corner



How to Encourage a Sense of Responsibility within Your Child

Responsibility is important for all children's developmental years. Not only will they carry these skills through the rest of their young lives, but the essence of responsibility will help them make key decisions and hold key positions later in life. Although it may sound complex, giving a child a sense of both independence and responsibility at home will help them through their schooling and extracurricular activities, and may also translate to better habits all around as they grow older. By following a few simple steps, you can help your child develop good, responsible habits.

Give Them Larger-than-Life Tasks as well as Small Chores

Overloading your child may deter them from wanting to take on a position entailing responsibility. Instead, by giving them one large chore or task to perform along with a few smaller ones, you can help increase the likelihood that they will complete these chores more quickly as time goes on. You can also help develop their sense of independence by giving them a chore or job that they have always been interested in. A great example of this is when children see their parents washing a car and want to help. Remember, the goal is look for opportunities to foster the feeling of satisfaction that comes with completing a task independently. Give your child small tasks you are confident they can complete independently. Give your child a more challenging role than usual when you're working on a task together, and responsibility will blossom all on its own.

Get Them a Pet. or Plant Something Else They Will Want to Maintain

When your child truly wants a pet and has the opportunity to care for it every day. they will eventually develop a sense of responsibility and ownership. Pet ownership is a great way to develop responsible habits: reward your child for taking initiative when not asked. If you already have a pet, look for ways for your child to be more involved in caring for the pet. A great alternative to a pet is to get a plant for your child to care for: a plant can be fun stepping stone and good alternative for developing responsibility in children.

REMEMBER:

- Although a pet is a good example for handing responsibility to your child. other scenarios work just as well.
- The promise of something enjoyable after chores will help motivate your child to get through them more quickly and efficiently as long as you don't overdo it!
- Encourage your child to take on leadership roles in school or play in a gentle and positive way.







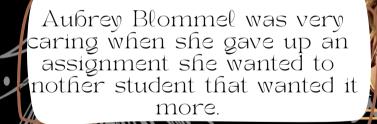
CAUGHT WITH CHARACTER

Madison Harris was caring when she picked up a bucket another student dropped.

Brinna Howard showed great citizenship when she picked up all breakfast trays that were left behind on the table.



Grant Gimore acted very responsible when he saw a man without a visitor's badge and told his teacher right away.





Shaymus Whyte was very responsible when he helped an injured student to the clinic.

November's Students of the Month





First Row (left to right): Cole Groover, Rylan Guynn, Brady Hermon, Penelope Arfaras, Brynn Scharber, Wyatt Derby second row (left to Right): Julianna Rosario, Kai Lurch, Trace Floyd, Annabelle Driscoll, and Eve Towner

Front Row/Left to Right-Aubrey McLeod, Gabriella Gomes Coimbra, Madison Jerrell, Tessa Castro, Olivia Boyd, Jayce Hancock Back Row/Left to Right- Eli Martin, Christian Rosario, Dana Jones, Mia Poe

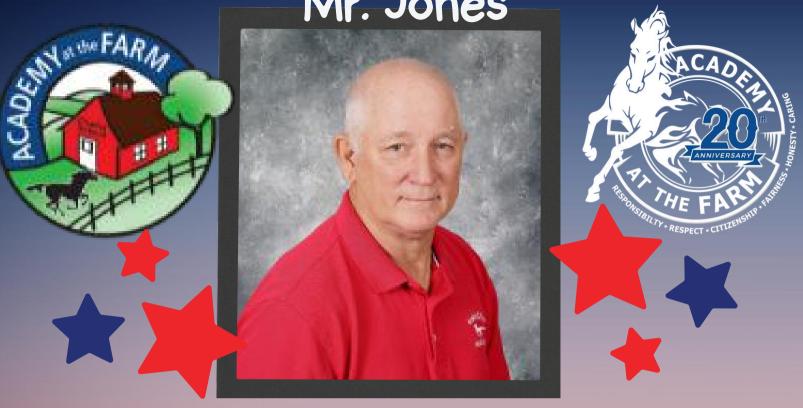






Primary Citizen of the month: Liam DuBois

AATF Celebrating 20 Years
Mr. Jones



Teaching is my second career. I went to work at St. Joe Electronics, a local TV shop while I was a student at Pasco High. I spent almost 30 years in the television repair business, the last 20 at Dale's Firestone in Zephyrhills. I decided to go into education at that point and went back to school. I earned My AA at Pasco Hernando, and a BS in elementary education from the University of South Florida.

My first teaching job was at Schrader Elementary. Francis McCrimmon called me at the end of the school year and told me about the Academy at the Farm. When I found out that she was involved and that Mike Rom was the Director, I knew it was an opportunity that I could not pass up even though there was no school when I took the job. The first year was exhausting because we didn't have much, we had to teach specials with no planning, and we even had to clean our own classrooms. It was amazing to see everything come together the way it did that first year.

When the school started, most of the other teachers had their own kids at the Academy. Unfortunately, my two sons were already in high school and college, so they could not come. But, I have been very fortunate because all four of my grandchildren have been able to get into the Academy at the Farm. Two are in third grade, one is in 5th grade, and one is in 8th grade.

After twenty years, I am still at the Academy at the Farm and looking forward to what is yet to come!



Academy at the Farm Through the years

By: Mrs. Flournory

STARTING FROM SCRATCH (CONTINUED FROM NOVEMBER)

Last month I asked six of the founding teachers at AATF some questions about starting the school in 2002. This month we continue the discussion with:

Marcia Dwyer - Head K-5 Instructor and Kindergarten teacher Virgil Jones - 4th/5th grade teacher Amanda (Austin) Reutimann - Kindergarten/1st grade teacher Kim Ladd - 2nd/3rd grade teacher Janet Nathe - 1st grade teacher Nancy Rieg - 1st/2nd grade teacher

Tell me about one of your most memorable moments at the Academy.

MD - When the teachers and Dr. Rom received money from parents to fly as a staff to Washington D.C.

VJ - The first year the school opened and seeing everything come together.

AR - I loved all of the different ways that we used to take class pictures when we were smaller. We would be creative to show off something about the school - the farm, the new playground, the new sign, and once Dr. Rom moved his office outside like a living room setting.

KL - When we were given permission to move into the new middle school building and the students packed up and moved boxes and furniture because they were so excited!

JN - There are so many memorable moments: working in the garage planning and looking up the hill and realizing that one day there would be a school building at the top; planning over the summer at Tampa Bay Golf and Country Club for the first year; working in our classrooms in the dark as there was no electricity before the school opened; having parents supervise the students so the teachers and staff could meet together.

NR - There are so many! The Christmas party at Dr. Rom's house, the trip to Washington D.C., everyday in the teacher's lunch room was full of great times!





Academy at the Farm Through the years

By: Mrs. Flournory

What would you like to see for AATF's future?

MD - I would like to see us continue the way it was intended - for kids to learn in a kind, caring and non-judgmental environment. Continue the six character traits and always do what is best for kids!

VJ - My hope is that the culture of the school is carried on as the school expands.

AR - I would love for the Academy to not grow much bigger. The bigger we get, the more difficult it is for us to keep the connections between staff members on different teams.

KL - An innovative high school that teaches students a trade they can make a career out of.

JN - Continued success in raising children who will be successful members of our community. Students who value each person they meet and wish the best for that person.

NR - I haven't been in the loop these days, however, the school has been thriving since its inception so I would say keep doing more of the same!

What are you most proud of accomplishing at the Academy and what are you doing now?

MD - I am most proud of when all of the teachers flew to Washington D.C. to receive from the Center for Education Reform, the National Recognition Exemplary Charter School 2005-2006 Charter School Award. It was one of the best experiences I have ever had in education...to be recognized as a teacher and a school and being a part of one of the best charter schools in the nation. I am still here...20 years and going strong!

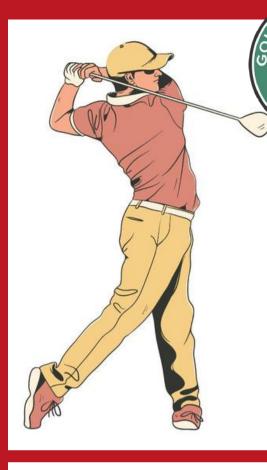
VJ - I am proud that I have been at the school since it opened 20 years ago. I am currently teaching 5th grade math and science.

AR - With the leadership of Marcia Dwyer and the help of my teammates, I am most proud that we have built a strong primary team where students are loved and supported, but also challenged academically to learn up to their potential. I am still at the Academy teaching kindergarten reading, science and social studies in the same classroom that I moved into 20 years ago.

KL - I am most proud of being named one of the top teachers in Florida. I am currently retired - traveling, spending time with my grandchildren and working for our two family businesses.

JN - I am most proud of helping students recognize the value of each person as an individual. I am also proud that the school has grown the agriculture program and helped students realize the significant role that agriculture plays in our lives. Currently, I am working at Baldy Boyd State Farm educating people on their insurance needs.

NR - I am most proud of accomplishing a happy place for kids to learn. Currently I am a real estate broker and investor and am preparing for my greatest job yet...Grandmahood!



10TH ANNUAL

ACADEMY AT THE FARM GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2023

7:45-8:45am Registration

9:00am Shotgun Start

1:00pm Lunch



Academy At The Farm 10th Annual

Golf Tournament

Friday, January 20, 2023

7:45-8:45am Registration 9:00am Shotgun Start 1:00pm Lunch

Foursome \$400 Individual Golfer \$100 Price includes:

- 18 Holes of Golf and Cart Fees
- Lunch
- Longest Drive Entry
- · Closest to the Pin Entry

\$10,000 Hole-In-One Sponsored by:



\$25 Super Ticket Includes: Mulligan, Red Tee shot and raffle ticket.

2023 Golf Tournament Sponsorship Opportunities

ACE Package

\$2,500

- 4 Golfers
- Super Ticket for Each Player
- Hole Sponsorship
- · Banner displayed at Golf Course
- Advertisement on School Website
- Gift for each player
- Company banner displayed at school for one year

Beverage Cart Sponsorship

\$1000

- 4 Golfers
- Logo on Beverage Carts
- Hole Sponsorship
- · Gift for Each Player



Birdie Package

\$550

- 4 Golfers
- Hole Sponsorship
- Gift for Each Player

Hole Sponsorship

\$200

Hole Signage



SORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023

Check In: 2:30 - 3:00 pm Clay Shoot: 3:15 pm

BBQ Dinner and Auction: 5:30 pm

TAMPA BAY SPORTING CLAYS

10514 Ehren Cutoff Land O' Lakes, FL 34639

www.academyatthefarm.com/clay-shoot

SPONSOR, TEAM AND DINNER REGISTRATION

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

TITLE SPONSOR - \$5,000

- · Hanging Logo Banner at Event
- · Logo on Score Cards
- · Logo on Auction Table & Bid Sheets
- VIP Golf Cart with Cooler of Waters,
- Sodas and Gatorades
- 2, 4-Person Teams
 3 Course Station Signs
- 8 Additional Dinner Tickets
- Emcee Recognition at Event
- Exclusive Rights to Provide Attendee Favor Bags
- · Logo Sign Displayed at School
- · Logo in Mustang Muscle Newsletter

BUSINESS SPONSOR - \$1,000

- 1, 4-Person Team 1 Course Station Sign
- Emcee Recognition at Event
- · Logo in Mustang Muscle Newsletter

PRIZE SPONSOR - \$4,000

- · Logo Banner on Raffle Tables
- · Logo on Raffle Tickets
- 1, 4-Person Team
- 2 Course Station Signs
- 4 Additional Dinner Tickets
- Emcee Recognition at Event
- · Logo Sign Displayed at School
- · Logo in Mustang Muscle Newsletter

Half of Sponsorship Funds will Purchase High End Prizes for Raffle. Each Participant will Receive a Raffle Ticket with Prize Sponsor Company Logo.

STATION SIGN SPONSOR - \$150

- 1 Course Station Sign
- Emcee Recognition at Event
- · Name in Mustang Muscle Newsletter

DINNER SPONSOR - \$2,500

- Logo Banner on Buffet Tables
- Logo on Dinner Tables
- 1, 4-Person Team
- 1 Course Station Signs
- 4 Additional Dinner Tickets
- Emcee Recognition at Event
- Logo Sign Displayed at School
- Logo in Mustang Muscle Newsletter

BAR SPONSOR - \$2,000

- · Logo Banner on Bar Front
- · Logo on Beverage Napkins
- 1, 4-Person Team
- 1 Course Station Sign
- · Emcee Recognition at Event
- Logo Sign Displayed at School
- · Logo in Mustang Muscle Newsletter

TEAM, INDIVIDUAL & DINNER INFORMATION

TEAM (4-PERSON) & INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION*

 TEAM
 IND
 DEADLINE

 \$500
 \$125
 Register by January 15, 2023

 \$550
 \$140
 Register by February 15, 2023

 \$600
 \$155
 Register by March 15, 2023

 \$650
 \$170
 Onsite Registration

*Shells, Dinner and Open Bar (21 and Over) are Provided to Each Participant

ADDITIONAL DINNER TICKETS*

- \$30 Adult Dinner & Open Bar Ticket
- \$15 Child Dinner Ticket (12 and Under)

*Must Be Pre-Purchased by March 15, 2023 Additional Dinner Tickets May Not Be Available Onsite

REGISTRATION

REGISTER TODAY!



TBSC PARTICIPANT WAIVER FORM



QUESTIONS?

Rutland Bussey: 727-515-1926 Dana Maggard: 502-807-7992 pullforkids@academyatthefarm.com www.academyatthefarm.com/clay-shoot

Friends of the Academy is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Upcoming Events and Important Dates



FREE DRESS FRIDAY DECEMBER 16TH







-NO SCHOOL-WINTER BREAK DECEMBER 19TH, 2022 -JANUARY 2ND, 2023

-NO SCHOOL-TEACHER PLANNING DAY JANUARY 3RD, 2023