



# Falcon Flyer



A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR FREEDOM FAMILY

Volume 2· Issue 5

<http://myvolusiaschools.org/school/Freedom/Pages/>

January 6, 2020

## Welcome Back!



## FSA 2020 DATES

*Plan ahead to be present and ready to shine for Spring testing:*

**April 1-Wednesday, ELA Reading Gd. 3/Writing Gd. 4**

**April 2-Thursday, ELA Reading Gd. 3/ Writing Gd. 5**

**May 5-Tuesday, ELA Reading Gd. 4 and 5**

**May 6-Wednesday, ELA Reading Gd. 4 and 5**

**May 7-Thursday, Math Gd. 3, 4, and 5**

**May 8-Friday, Math Gd. 3, 4, 5**

**May 12-Tuesday, Science Gd. 5**

**May 13-Wednesday, Science Gd. 5**

## From Administration

Happy New Year! The beginning of the new calendar year also marks the start of the second half of the school year. We want to take this opportunity to wish all Freedom families a happy and healthy 2020! Our attention continues to be focused on student progress and achievement. This year our school improvement initiative includes providing students with rigorous small group instruction in both reading and math. Safety is always our top priority as well, and we will continue to conduct fire and other safety drills. Our students and staff will participate in a state-wide severe weather drill later this month during Severe Weather Awareness Week. As always, remember to soar high in all that you do!

Your Proud Principals,  
Joy Walker and Bill Goldsmith

## Fifth Grade Fundraiser

Skip a night of cooking and cleaning! Please join us on Thursday, January 23 from 4:00-9:30 at the Deland Sonny's, have dinner, and support fifth grade's Spring field study. Turn your receipt in on the way out that night, and Sonny's will donate a portion of your check to help a student in need attend the trip.

## PTA NEWS

Happy New Year from the Freedom Elementary PTA! Thank you to everyone who helped make our holiday shop a huge success! The students really loved it. We could not have done it without our volunteers. We are looking for PTA members to be on the nominating committee, as it is time to start recruiting officers for the 2020-21 PTA Executive Committee. Elections will be held in April of 2020. Are you interested in helping create the ballot? If so, please email us at [FreedomPTADeland@gmail.com](mailto:FreedomPTADeland@gmail.com). Are you interested in holding a position on the Executive Committee? The positions are president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. We are also looking for a chairperson to oversee the Reflections Program, which is an arts recognition and achievement program sponsored by National PTA. The only requirement for any of these positions is that you must currently be a member of the Freedom Elementary PTA. If you would like more information or are interested in nominating yourself for any of these positions, please email us at [FreedomPTADeland@gmail.com](mailto:FreedomPTADeland@gmail.com). This is a year long commitment.

It is almost time for our annual Walk-a-thon! The pep rally will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, and then the Walk-a-thon will be held on Friday, February 14, 2020. If you are interested in volunteering during the walk-a-thon, please send us an email at [FreedomPTADeland@gmail.com](mailto:FreedomPTADeland@gmail.com). You need to be a district-approved volunteer.

Join us for dinner at Chic-fil-A in Deland on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, from 4:30pm to 7:30pm for Freedom Elementary PTA's Spirit Night to support the fifth grade. Mobile orders cannot be counted, but you may dine-in, carry-out, or drive-thru. Please tell the cashier you are with Freedom Elementary School when you place your order.

Thank you for your continuous and generous support of the Freedom Elementary PTA!



## News From Guidance

Welcome back my friends! I hope everyone had a wonderful break, but I am excited to get back into the swing of things this second half of the year! Our theme for the month of January is responsibility, understanding skills needed to be successful in life. We will set goals for the second half of the year and focus on time management, organization, study skills and perseverance. We will also have our "Pennies for Patients" campaign starting January 13 and ending January 24. Start saving your loose change now, so we can make a huge impact for this wonderful charity. Please look for those boxes to come home soon!

Mrs. Wycuff, Guidance Counselor

## Technology News

Fourth and fifth Grade students: The monthly computer class Keyboarding Contest continues during January. "Top Typist" plaques and prizes will be given to four students from each grade level that spend the most time practicing on Typing.com each month. Please see Mr. Tindal if you have any questions.

## Second Grade News

Second graders are learning how to tell time and count money. Parents, you can help your child by asking them to read the clock a few times each day. Also, have them count some loose change and tell you the total amount. See if they can figure out how much change you should receive when purchasing items at the store. In language arts, second graders continue to build vocabulary and practice reading comprehension skills. Help your child become a stronger reader by listening to him or her read to you at home each night. In science, second grade is learning about changing matter. We will investigate ways to change solids and liquids such as tearing, cutting, bending, cooking, freezing, melting, dissolving, evaporating, heating, and rusting. Our social studies focus is on American History this month. We are exploring ways the daily life of people living in Colonial America changed over time.

## Welcome New Falcons!

Ms. Conaway/Second Grade  
Mrs. Smith/First Grade  
Ms. Gabbo-senior intern in Mrs. Kruszeski's kindergarten class

*We are glad to have you here at Freedom!*

## Media News

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a wonderful winter break. January is another busy month in the Freedom Media Center. Our SSYRA Challenge continues for students in grades 3-5. Those students are also challenged to read a chapter book with an animal protagonist for our January Fiction Genre Challenge. The Freedom Spelling Bee is scheduled for Friday, January 17 in the media center. Our second graders will participate in a book tasting event to kick-off their "Reading is SNOW Cool" chapter book challenge. Finally, our entire school will participate in Florida's Celebrate Literacy Week. Our theme is "Reading is SPUD-tacular". Students are invited to create a potato character to add to our potato patch, share favorite books with friends, and decorate their classroom door to reflect their love of books.



• HAPPY NEW YEAR •

*Freedom Elementary would like to THANK Parks Toyota of Deland for donating the use of a beautiful Toyota Tundra in the Deland Christmas Parade on December 7. Freedom was represented by FFEA, Run Club, Artrageous Kids Club, Safety Patrols, SOAR the Falcon, several teachers, and Mr. Goldsmith. It was a joyful night for all!*

## Parent Reminders/Dates

SAC Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 6:00PM

Berryville Fundraiser: Thursday, Jan. 16, 4:30-7:30

MLK Holiday: Monday, January 20-No School

Sonny's Fundraiser: Thurs., January 23, 5-9

NUT-No Uniform Today: Mon., January 27 \$1

Chick Fila Night: Tuesday, January 28, 4:30-7:30

Celebrate Literacy Week: Jan. 27-Jan. 31



Visit the Freedom website at:  
<http://myvolusiaschools.org/school/Freedom/Pages/default.aspx>