

Saratoga Connection



October 13, 2021

Principals' Corner

Dear Saratoga Families,
It has been wonderful seeing our students excited about learning. Over the past few weeks, our students have watched the life cycle of butterflies happen before them, studied ant colonies and how ants behave, built representations of the geography of Virginia, and deepened their understanding of our solar system. Our scholars have also made connections to previous learning and used that to shape their new learning. It has been awesome to watch.

We thank you for sharing your children with us and your continued partnership. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Take Care & Stay Well,

Erica Loesch
Principal

Abby Lower
Asst. Principal

Abby Ragan
Asst. Principal

Health Screening Questionnaire

Thank you for continuing to review the [FCPS health screening questionnaire](#) daily.

If your child displays any symptoms, please keep them home until they are resolving. We want all students to be in school, and it's important that students are healthy.

Student Rights & Responsibilities

The 2021-22 Students Rights and Responsibilities (SR&R) guide for families can be found [here](#). You can acknowledge that you have received the Student Rights & Responsibilities: A Guide for Families for 2021-22 in [ParentVue](#) or by using a paper [form](#). Ask your child's teacher to send home a copy.

End of the Quarter

The end of Quarter 1 is Friday, October 29. Students will be released 2-hours early (2:05 PM). Monday, November 1 and Tuesday, November 2 will be Teacher Workdays, so there is no school for students. Report cards will be sent home for those who have not opted for paperless on Wednesday, November 10. If you would like to schedule a conference with your child's teacher, please reach out to them to schedule.

Upcoming Testing

Make-ups for the **Virginia Growth Assessment** for Grades 3-6, Oct 12 - Oct 15: [Testing Notification Letter](#)

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Screener for Grades 3-6, Oct 12 - Oct 22: [Testing Notification Letter](#)

Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) for Grades 2 & 3 and some additional select students, Oct 18 and Oct 29: [Testing Notification Letter](#)

Level IV Referral Timelines

Referral and optional materials are due to Beth Polansky by December 15, 2021. Here is a link to the AAP forms - <https://www.fcps.edu/academics/academic-overview/advanced-academic-programs-aap/advanced-academic-program-aap-forms>. For more information about the Advanced Academic Programs, visit <https://www.fcps.edu/academics/academic-overview/advanced-academic-programs>.

Positivity Project

Saratoga is a Positivity Project (P2) school. We are in our second year and are excited to be a part of this community. P2's mission is to empower America's youth to build strong relationships and to understand, appreciate, and exemplify the character strengths in us all. The P2 vision is to partner with schools across the country and to equip educators with the strategy, resources, and training to teach positive psychology's 24 character strengths. Saratoga has joined this community because relationships are the cornerstone of health, happiness, and resilience. It helps to build a positive school culture by developing a common vocabulary and self-aware, empathetic students who see character strengths in themselves and others. It aligns with FCPS' Portrait of a Graduate and socioemotional learning and can be implemented schoolwide.

There is a P2 for Families resource page: <https://posproject.org/p2-for-families/>. The password is P2. Check out this resource for more information about the character traits we are covering over the next few weeks:

- October 11 - October 15: Forgiveness
- October 18 - October 22: Creativity
- October 25 - October 29: Perspective
- November 1 - November 5: Bravery

*"True forgiveness is when you can say,
'Thank you for that experience.'"*
-Oprah Winfrey