



Quarterly Newsletter



REAL Academy

To provide a REAL opportunity for academic success

Home of the KNIGHTS!

<http://realacademy.polk-fl.net/>



John Wilson – Principal

Enrique Gutierrez AP - Dwight Smith Center (DSC) & Gause Academy (GA) 863-413-2823

Shawn Livingston AP - Auburndale Senior (AHS)

863-968-5678 (Office is always open for parents to come in!)

Anel Rivera AP – Davenport Community Center (DCC) 863-419-3043

Principal Wisdom

The WE3 Expo occurred in November 2017 and REAL Academy was there! For more information about the event, please go to www.polk-fl.net and search WE3 Expo.



Academic Adventures

Students, academically, should have completed one school year at this time. Please ask your child where they are!

Upcoming Events

Testing Dates

Week of Feb 12th - STAR Reading and Math

Feb 13th - Infrastructure Trial for FSA

Week of Feb 20th - PERT Testing

Feb 27th - ACT School Day

Week of Feb 28th - Writing Retake

Mar 6th - WRITING test 4-10

Mar 13th - Infrastructure Trial for TESTNAV

Week of March 12th - PERT Testing

Week of Mar 19th - READING Retake and EOC Retakes

Week of April 9th - READING 4-10

Week of April 16th - MATH 4-8, ALG, GEO

Week of April 23rd - EOC BIO, USH, and CIV, PERT Testing

MAY 1st - 5th and 8th SCIENCE

No School for Students

Feb 19th - President's Day

Feb 26th - Teacher Work Day

Mar 26th through 30th - Spring Break

May 24th - Students Last Day

Student Spotlights

The elementary students at the Auburndale campus practiced some creative writing skills for Halloween. Student created origin stories for the pictured "creepy" houses.



For Thanksgiving, the students worked on themed illustrations to accompany essays about thankfulness.



PARENT RESOURCE CENTERS

What will the centers offer?

- Free workshops and classes including Rosetta Stone, Financial Literacy, and Nutrition.
- A variety of information and resources from local businesses and community organizations within Polk County.
- Materials for grades PreK-12th to check out in the content area of reading, writing, math, and science. All materials will be linked to our curriculum in Polk County and based on the Florida Standards
- A professional library of parent resource books.
- two computers for parent use with internet
- ACCESS partner
- All materials will be available in English and most in Spanish. Haitian Creole will be offered if available.
- Family game nights



Please go to <http://www.polk-fl.net/parents/involvement/pirc.htm> to find out more information.

Counselor Corner

Questions for Students

- What do you think keeps you from doing better in school?
- Are there subjects that are easier for you? Are there subjects that are more difficult for you?
- What could teachers do to help you do better in school?
- What could your parent/guardian do to help you do better in school?
- What do you think you need to do to improve your school performance?
- Do you care if you succeed in school? Why or why not?
- What do your friends think of people who do well in school? Do your friends encourage or discourage you from succeeding in school?
- What are some things that motivate you? What activities do you enjoy?
- How do you usually complete your homework? How do you stay organized and keep track of work that is due? How do you usually study for a test?
- How well do you handle stress?
- Where do you see yourself after high school? What job do you hope to obtain as an adult?

Questions for Parents

- What do you think is the reason your son/daughter is not performing as well in school as they should?
- What does your son/daughter do during his/her spare time at home?
- Does your son/daughter work well on his/her own or do you need to constantly remind them to get schoolwork done?
- What have you tried to motivate him/her? Did anything work?
- Do you have any ideas to help your son/daughter improve his/her grades?
- Have you noticed any patterns with your child? Are there times when he/she performs well in school but other times when he/she does not?
- Is there anything going on that might be distracting your child from schoolwork?
- When and where does your child usually get his/her schoolwork done at home?



Reading Corner

A Reading Strategy Everyone Can Use By Penelope S. Trulson

No matter how old you are, reading is a skill that will stay with you throughout your life, and there are many reasons to read; for information, for entertainment, for knowledge. However, whatever your reasons, there are a few things you can do to better comprehend the material. For this reason, today I would like to focus on *summarizing* strategies.

In our curriculum, Language Arts/English students are often asked to read a portion of a poem, a short story, or a novel. Students may also be asked to read and understand scientific findings, or comprehend difficult language in important historical papers. Likewise, students also have to determine which information is necessary in an effort to do computations in the math class. Each example here can be helped along by doing one simple act, and that is, summarizing the information given in order to achieve success in the course.



All this might sound rather confusing so allow me to explain this process. When reading a section whether it be in History, English, Math, or Science, first take the time to jot down a few notes about what you have read, and then take a

moment to summarize what the passage has stated. It is really quite simple. In History for instance, students may be learning about early civilizations and how they were governed. In order to remember who was doing what, when, it is a good idea to write a

couple of lines summing up the material. In general, students should summarize after every paragraph. Once they get a handle on using this technique, they might be able to read an entire page, and then do their summarizing. This same process can easily be transferred to all the other courses as well. It really does make the comprehension of the curriculum much easier if students are taking bite sized pieces of information and really trying to understand what they are learning. Surprisingly, this strategy will definitely help you understand the learning process in the math class. If you can summarize what the teacher has presented, you have most likely gotten the high points of the lesson and you will be successful on the quizzes and tests.

Simply put, read, restate, summarize. It really will help you comprehend the material.

Technology Tidbits

The following is an excerpt from [The True Definition of Technology](#) By Amanda Tocci

Do not be conned by technology that promises everything in the world. Be aware of what and how that technology will allow your child to improve within the classroom and always, always ask questions.

Computer Use Checklist

- Check your child's search history frequently
- Go over online safety rules with kids

(continued on next page)

Student Spotlights

Jaimmy Edwards, a 5th grader, is our Student of the Quarter for Gause Academy. Jaimmy is soft spoken, respectful, focused on her academics, and gets along exceptionally well with her peers.



- Never use your real name on public sites
- Never give out your address
- Stick to familiar & reputable websites
- Supervise the site access information
- Limit weekday computer time for homework or research
- Research shows that technology usage before bed can impair sleep
- Encourage kids to take note & analyze the quality of online information
- Be aware of age restrictions on social networking sites

Health and Happiness

7 Side Effects of Soda

Phosphoric Acid - Weakens bones and rots teeth

Excessive artificial sweeteners makes you crave more

Carmel Color - Made from the chemical caramel, is purely cosmetic, it doesn't add flavor yet is tainted with carcinogens.

Formaldehyde - Carcinogen, it is not added in soda but when you digest aspartame, it will break down into 2 amino acids and methanol = Formic acid + Formaldehyde (diet sodas)



High Fructose Corn Syrup is a Concentrated Form of sugar, fructose derived from corn. It increases body fat, cholesterol and triglycerides and it also makes you hungry.

Potassium Benzoate = preservative that can be broken down to benzene in your body. Keep your soda in the sun and benzene = Carcinogen

Food Dyes = impaired brain function, hyperactive behavior, difficulty focussing, lack of impulse control

Edgenuity for all

EdGenuity PaRENT LOGIN

WHAT: GET ACCESS TO YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS/GRADES, KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON WITH THEIR WORK, SEE THE TIME SPENT DURING THE SCHOOL DAY, AND/OR SEE WHERE THEY ARE IN COMPLETION OF A GRADE LEVEL!



HOW: CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S ADMINISTRATOR BY EMAIL OR PHONE



Just before Thanksgiving break, the Lakeland campus had a Speed Stacks demonstration during P.E. They had different stacking activities, relays, and raced against each other for the fastest time.