



# Quarterly Newsletter

V4-E2



## REAL Academy

To provide a REAL opportunity for academic success

Home of the KNIGHTS! <http://realacademy.polk-fl.net/>

(Offices are always open for parents to come in!)

**John Wilson** – Principal

**Shirley E James AP** - Dwight Smith Center (DSC) &  
Gause Academy (GA) 863-413-2837

**Shawn Livingston AP** - Auburndale Senior (AHS)  
863-968-5678

**Anel Rivera AP** – Eastside Elementary (EE) 863-419-3043



## Upcoming Events

### Important Dates:

January 20<sup>th</sup> - Holiday  
February 5<sup>th</sup> - Early Release  
February 17<sup>th</sup> - Holiday  
February 14<sup>th</sup> - Teacher Work Day  
March 11<sup>th</sup> - Early Release  
March 13<sup>th</sup> - End of 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 Weeks  
March 23<sup>rd</sup> to March 27<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break

### Testing Dates:

ACCESS for ELL Students: January 29<sup>th</sup> to March 13<sup>th</sup>

PERT: EE - 1/21, 2/18, 3/17; AHS - 1/23, 2/19, 3/16; DSC - 1/24, 2/20, 3/18

ALG/ELA Retakes: 2/24-3/13

ACT: 2/25-2/26

## Academic Adventures

### Every Day Matters

**Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habits of Good Attendance**

#### Did you know:

- Students should miss **no more than 9 days of school each year** to stay on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with mistreatment or facing other serious problems.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is a sign that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th-grade test scores.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

#### What you can do:

- Make school attendance a priority.
- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day. Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
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- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomachaches may be signs of anxiety.
- Help your child stay engaged.

## Student Spotlights



REAL Academy Lakeland Elementary class is growing a "Magical Garden." We have carrots, cucumber, lettuce, radish, watermelon, jalapenos, green peppers and tomatoes. Yummy! - Ms. Montero (Lakeland)



- Find out if your child feels engaged by his classes and feels safe from mistreatment. Make sure he/she is not missing class because of behavioral issues and school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, work with your school.
- Stay on top of academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors if necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Communicate with the school.
- Know the school's attendance policy.
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up.
- Ask for help from school officials, afterschool programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.

### REAL Academy KNIGHTS Mascot

Mr Hogarty (Auburndale) created a mascot logo for our school!



REAL  
Academy  
Knights!

Thank you for your design image and we look forward to using our new logo in the future!

### Title I Information



Please visit our website: [www.realacademy.polk-fl.net](http://www.realacademy.polk-fl.net) to assist us in writing our Parent and Family Engagement Plan (PFEP) for the 2020-2021 School year. Your input as a stakeholder of your child's education is invaluable to our school!

The second semester brings various PARENT EVENTS at our locations which all students/families will be invited to. Watch for information to be coming in the mail, handouts, and phone calls.

## School Spotlights

Upcoming for Spring MAY Testing:

- FSA ELA (Rdg) - Grades 4-10
- FSA Math - Grades 4-8
- EOC's: Algebra 1, Biology, US History, Civics
- Science - Grades 5 and 8



Miss Clevenger (Auburndale)

Celebration at Eastside REAL Academy for those students that met the progress expectations for the first semester of 2019-2020 school year!



If you would like to begin receiving information through email, such as our newsletter, please provide an email address to [Cheryl.watford@polk-fl.net](mailto:Cheryl.watford@polk-fl.net)

## Counselor Corner

*Our goal is to have each student complete two years in the span of one and return to their home school! Working diligently both at home and at school will produce amazing results for each of you. Keep pushing forward and you will accomplish your goal for the end of the year! Mrs. Lenox (Lakeland)*

## Reading Corner

From the desk of Mrs. Dean (Lakeland)... Note: After reading, always discuss what you have read with at least one other person. This helps you remember what you read. It helps with writing, because you are training your brain to compose explanatory sentences while you are speaking.

1. Using the Internet, find five jobs you think you can do, read the job descriptions and duties, then discuss it.
2. Purchase or check out an interesting magazine and read one article, then discuss it.
3. Using the Internet, find a newspaper written when your parent was your age. Look at headlines, illustrations, advertisements and articles. Read a front-page article and ask your parent about it.
4. Find a magazine you are allowed to cut up. Cut out letters, words and phrases and make a note to your parent/guardian for Mother's Day (in May) or Father's Day (in June).
5. Using a cookbook, follow directions to make a recipe (cake and frosting, cookies, bread). Write in the margin of the cookbook about what you might change when you make it next time.



## Technology Tidbits

New Tech Gadgets from the desk of Mrs. Rice (Auburndale):

### **Bose Frames Audio Sunglasses:**

Bose debuted an audio gadget in 2019 that combined two things you love into one: cool sunglasses and wireless earbuds. If you throw a pair of these Bose Frames on during a sunny day spent outside, the frames themselves will play music, streamed from your phone via a Bluetooth connection. No one else will be able to hear your music playing. The speakers are that good. If you don't love this frame shape, the Rondo style is available with rounded edges.



### **Waverly Ambassador translator:**



Those who want to travel regardless of language barriers or converse with people who speak different languages in their own neighborhood can now that Waverly Labs have invented an audio device that translates on the spot. There are *many* situations in which to use it, but perhaps the most useful setup is to attach one to your ear, hand the other to someone who doesn't speak the same language to strap onto their own head, and talk away. The correct translation will play in both of your ears.

## Health and Happiness

5 great Family Date Ideas for your family from Mrs. Robles (Eastside)

**1. Take a Stay-Cation or Get-away:** This could be a simple night away enjoying the hotel swimming pool or a quick trip for skiing or ice-skating. It doesn't need to be far away to feel like an amazing family vacation even if it is just for a night or two.

**2. Go Bowling:** A night away bowling may not sound like anything-extra special, but why not up the ante a little and say a scoop of ice cream for every strike you make...or if you have small children, hitting pins at all.

**3. Take a City Tour:** Discover where you live a little more closely. You would be amazed what you could be missing in your own back door. Search the internet like you are a visitor coming to your own city and see what pops up. One of my favorite ways to do this would be a city tour bus. The tour guide would keep you covered with the history and you could hop on and off at your leisure.

**4. Dollar store Blitz:** Swap names from a hat and go to the dollar store to find a gift that would tell that person something that you love about them. Turn it into a game! For example: A hairbrush: "I love the way you help me get ready in the morning" or a pack of gum "You always "chews" the right way to go." Ha ha. I don't know...but make it fun!

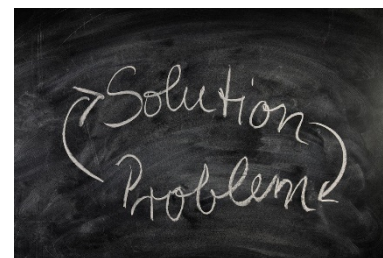
**5. Children's choice:** Let your kids choose what they think would be the best date ever with you. You may be surprised to hear what comes out of their mouths and it could open you up to trying new things that they love.

## Math Minutes

From the classroom of Mrs. McKinney (Lakeland)

### Understanding Math

Mathematics may not teach us to inhale oxygen or exhale carbon dioxide or to love a friend and forgive an enemy, but it gives us every reason to hope that every problem has a solution.



## Super Science

### Simple winter science experiments

(From the desk of Mrs. Henderson – Lakeland)



#### Fizzy Ice

materials:

- crushed ice in a bowl
- vinegar
- food coloring
- medicine dropper
- baking soda
- little cups or test tubes\* (\*optional)

#### Directions

Mix vinegar and food coloring to make different colored vinegar; put colored vinegar in the little cups

1. Fill a bowl or other container with crushed or cubed ice
2. Build mounds or piles of ice in the container
3. Add some baking soda down into the mound and more ice on top of it
4. Use the medicine dropper to drop some colored vinegar onto your ice mounds (covered in baking soda)
5. Watch the reactions
6. Pick a new color to drop on to the ice again
7. Add more baking soda to the ice and drop more vinegar onto the mounds and make more observations.
8. Mix colors and experiment until all the ice melts.