



# Liberty Patriot Stars

Learners Today ~ Leaders Tomorrow

## February

10—Midterms Sent Home  
14—Happy Valentines Day



17—No School~President's Day  
27—SAC/PTO Meeting @ 3:00pm

## March

2—Kindergarten Field Day  
3—First Grade Field Day  
4—Second Grade Field Day  
5—Third Grade field Day  
6—Fourth Grade field Day  
9—Fifth Grade Field Day  
15—Spring Break Begins  
3/15 thru 3/20  
23—No School/Teacher Work Day  
26—SAC/PTO Meeting @ 3:00  
30—Report Cards Sent Home

### **An important message from FRE coordinator Jennifer McGill:**

The Annual School Report Card is available on the Liberty website as well as the following link:

<https://edudata.fldoe.org/>

## Talking Time

by Joan Brown

Speech Language Pathologist

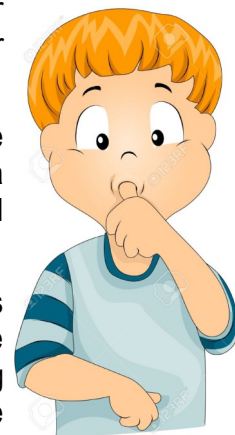
There are numerous theories as to why children suck their thumbs and why they will not stop. There are fewer suggestions, however, to help children break the habit.

Some infants suck their thumbs even before they are born. The reason for thumb sucking seem to be that it is a natural reflex that makes children feel secure, happy, and restful.

As children get older, thumb sucking may cause problems with the proper growth of the mouth and alignment of the teeth. Children may also develop a lisp. Thumb sucking may prevent the child from learning other ways to cope with stress. A child's social skills are also interfered with, as "non-suckers" may tease and make fun of the children that do.

Here are some suggestions for breaking the habit:

- ◆ Wean the child gradually
- ◆ Do not fuss, ridicule, or make fun of an older child for thumb sucking. Nagging will only the child feel guilty and may actually encourage the habit to continue.
- ◆ Advise friends and relatives to ignore it.
- ◆ Offer incentives. Rewards increase the chances that the child will practice a new behavior.
- ◆ Allow the thumb sucking at certain times and places for a specific length of time using a kitchen timer. Gradually reduce the time. Reward with hugs and praise.
- ◆ Choose a "penalty" for thumb sucking outside of specified times and places. For an example, give your child a roll of nickels and he must give you one each time he slips. At the end of a week, he can keep the remainder.
- ◆ Introduce an alternate activity to replace thumb sucking. It should use both hands like basketball, piano, card games, jumping rope, using a fidget spinner.



# Controlled Open Enrollment is Right Around the Corner!

This is a friendly reminder from Dr. Desjardins, Assistant Superintendent of School Support Services for Charlotte County Public Schools, alerting parents that the months of February and March are designated as the school district's controlled open enrollment window (school choice). During these months, parents and guardians may select a school in our district other than their child's assigned geographic school for the upcoming 2020-21 school year as long as that school is not closed due to being at capacity enrollment. If a school is "open" to reassignments, it is important to note that your child is not necessarily guaranteed a spot at that location. If there are more reassignment requests for a particular school than available seats, then the district will use a random lottery to determine which students will be allowed to attend that school. If a random lottery is needed, it will be conducted during the first two weeks of April.

Any student who is currently on reassignment to a school other than his or her assigned geographic school is no longer required to renew his or her reassignment every year. Your student will remain on that school's roster until your student has completed the highest grade level offered at that school (5th grade for elementary school and 8th grade for middle school). Out-of-County residents no longer need to renew their reassignment application each year they wish for their student to attend a Charlotte County Public School unless they decide to change the school their student is currently attending.

Reassignment forms are available at any Charlotte County Public School, Charlotte County Public Schools Murdock Center, or on the web at [www.yourcharlotteschools.net](http://www.yourcharlotteschools.net). A complete listing of schools that are at capacity (closed to reassignments) is also available on the school district's website. If you decide to select a school other than your child's assigned geographic school, be careful to research the special conditions such as athletic eligibility that are attached to reassignment obligations. Transportation is not provided for students who have obtained a reassignment. Out-of-County students no longer need to obtain a signature (release) from their county of residence

Parents or guardians who have any additional questions may call 941-255-0808, extension 3005.



**The Knights  
of Columbus  
Keeping Liberty  
Kids Warm**



Liberty Elementary would like to thank the Knights of Columbus Council 11483 for donating twelve jackets to our Liberty students who really needed and appreciated them during these Florida cold snaps we have been experiencing. Thank you for your very thoughtful donation.

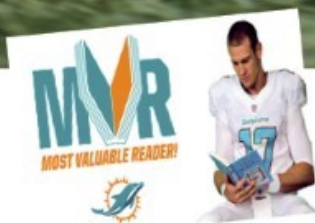
*Congratulations*



Congratulations to our very own Mrs. Kulman for being a Support Staff Finalist. Mrs. Kulman has been at Liberty Elementary for five years. She touches the lives of many of our students whether it be in the cafeteria, in the classroom, or running our after school Girls on the Run Program. She will always be a winner in the eyes of her Liberty Family!

# The Reading Zone

January 27- March 6, 2020



## The Reading Zone

The Reading Zone is a school wide reading contest. Students have 6 weeks to read books, take AR tests, and earn points. Prizes can be earned by the top readers. Only the points earned during the reading zone count. Everyone starts Monday, the 27<sup>th</sup>, with zero points and however many they earn in that six weeks is what counts. Students can take AR tests Jan. 27-Mar.6 from 8:00-2:50.

### Ways to Win

MVR (Most Valuable Reader)- Weekly Top Point earners from each class will be announced on WLES News. Each Monday we will announce who in each class got the most points for the week before. The MVR's will get a certificate and teachers will get an MVR football picture with student name to display in the hallway.

Top Readers in each class for the 6 weeks total will get a certificate and medal at the Reading Zone Celebration.

The 2 students in each grade with the most A.R. points earned during the Reading Zone get to silly string reading leader Booher, Magill, Nease, Whaley, or Brown at the celebration. Those readers will also earn a certificate and medal.

The class with the most points for each grade level will get to douse the reading leader of their choice at the celebration.

Special Prizes- Outread Miss Nease, get over 100 points, and/or get 100% average percent correct on at least one book a week.



### SPIRIT WEEK ACTIVITIES

March 9- Pajama Day

March 10- Crazy Hair Day

March 11- Mismatch/Backwards Day

March 12- Dress Fancy/Formal Day

March 13- Team Color Day- K,3 Red; 1,4-White; 2,5-Blue

March 13- **Reading Zone Celebration/Dousing Day**, 10am

March 13- Patriotic Picnic following the Reading Zone Celebration. (students have a picnic outside and read)

Book Fair- March 9-13



# HAMBURGERS AND



## Family Reac

A very special thank you to Shane Engelauf, Officer and his "Hamburger" Family for their ground crew for their success. They were so kind taking time to answer questions and passing out treats to all.

# ND HELICOPTERS

## ing Experience

ou goes out to Officer/Pilot  
cer Donnie Amrhein, and  
r making our Helicopter &  
un Night such a wonderful  
kind to our Liberty students  
r all of their questions and  
ll.



# Clifford

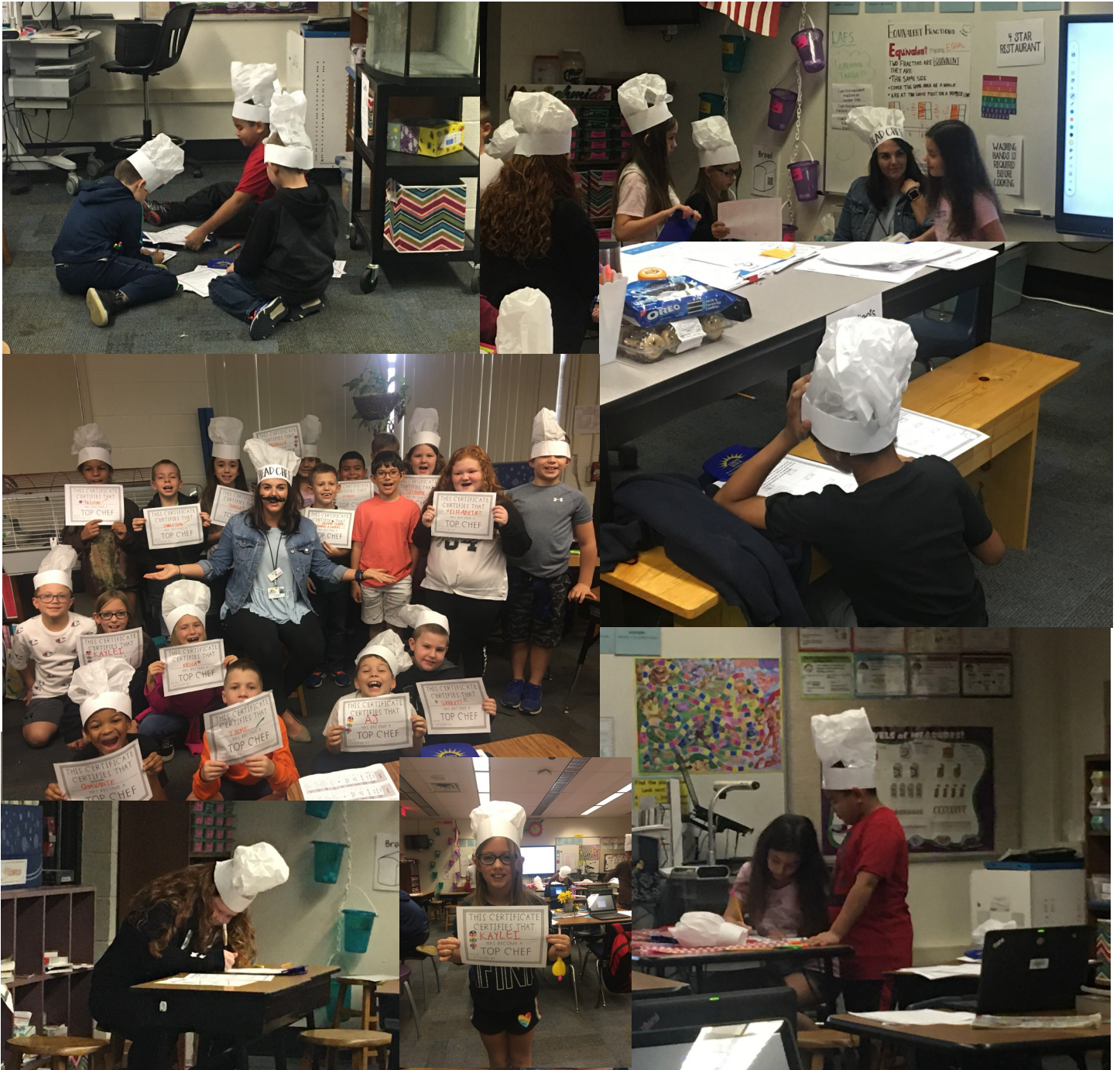
the Big Red Dog



Clifford the Big Red Dog visited our Family Reading Experience. He was a real “ham bone” taking time to pose for pictures and give hugs to our Liberty students. What a hot dog!

# Liberty Supports Future Educators

Liberty Elementary welcomes student teachers from Florida Southwestern State College into classrooms. Here we have Mary Murdock, a Practicum 2 student, teaching a lesson on fractions to Mrs. Schmidt's Third Grade Class. Ms. Murdock did a great job preparing for the lesson and keeping the students engaged as they worked through eight math centers solving problems involving fractions.



## Accelerated Reader



Accelerated Reader is a program that allows students to earn points for reading and comprehending books. In order to earn points, a student needs to read a book and understand what the book was about. Then log on to AR using the account provided by their teacher, to take a quiz on the book. Most picture books have 5 questions, and most chapter books have 10 questions. If the student receives a 100% they will earn full points for the book, however if they receive less than a 100% they will receive a portion of the points. Most picture books are worth 0.5 points and chapter books vary in point value based on difficulty. **Quizzes can only be taken at school during school hours**, but we encourage students to read their AR books at home. Kindergarten students will begin taking AR quizzes when they master 100 sight words. You can find out if a book has an AR quiz by visiting [www.arbookfind.com](http://www.arbookfind.com).

### So how can students celebrate these points?

Each grade level has a point goal to reach by the end of the school year. If they reach that goal, they will earn an AR t-shirt and an ice cream party. As students earn points, they will have opportunities throughout the year to purchase items at the AR store using their points.



**Reflex** helps students of all levels to develop fluency with their basic facts in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Math fact fluency is the quick and effortless (automatic) recall of basic math facts. This makes learning new math skills much more attainable for students.



Adaptive and individualized instruction



Engaging games that keep students coming back for more



Intuitive and powerful reporting for educators

Students can earn a **Movie and Popcorn party** twice a year if they achieve and maintain 100% fact fluency on Reflex. Students login and practice math facts through colorful interactive video games. Once they have answered enough facts correctly for the day, they will earn a green light. This should be **done at least 3 days per week**.