

# Driftwood Elementary School

May 2016  
Volume 8, Issue 8

Dear Parents,

This is a bittersweet letter to write as it will be my last newsletter as Principal of Driftwood Elementary School. I will retire on May 31, 2016. I have been the proud principal of Driftwood Elementary for 21 years. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the students, staff, parents and community. I want to thank you for all your support throughout the years.

I also want to thank the wonderful teachers and staff at Driftwood. They are an amazing group of people. They are very hard working and dedicated. I could not have been principal for all these years without the support of the staff.

I will miss coming to Driftwood each day, but at the same time I am looking forward to a new chapter in my life.

I will always have very happy memories of my time spent at Driftwood and of all the lives I've touched and have touched me.

Thank you again!

Gladys Donovan  
Principal.



Queridos Padres;

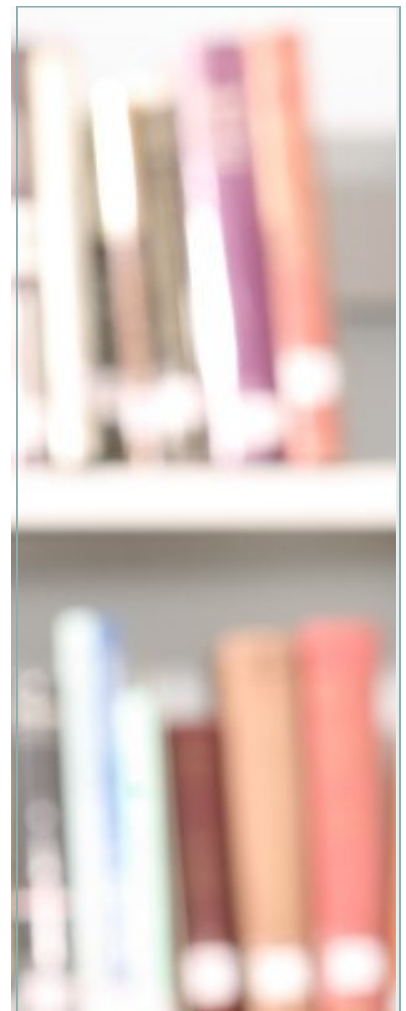
Para mi escribir esta carta es agri dulce. Va a ser me ultima carta informativa como la Directora de Driftwood Elementary School. Voy a retirarme el 31 de mayo. Me he sentido muy orgulloso de ser la Directora por 21 años. He disfrutado trabajar con los estudiantes, maestros, padres, y la comunidad cercana. Quiero dar las gracias a todos por su ayuda a través de los años.

También quiero dar las gracias a los maravillosos maestros y personal de la escuela. Es un grupo único y asombroso. Son muy dedicados y ponen todo sus esfuerzos en su trabajo. No sería posible haber completado todo los deberes de directora sin la ayuda y apoyo del personal de la oficina.

Cada día voy a echar de menos la escuela. A la vez estoy anticipando abrir un nuevo capitulo en me vida. Siempre voy a guardar memorias muy felices de los años trabajando en Driftwood y todas las vidas que he tocado y a las persona que me han tocado a mi.

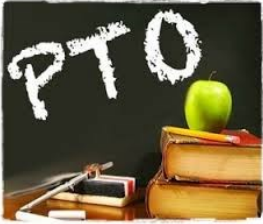
!Gracias de Nuevo!

Gladys Donovan  
Directora de Driftwood Elementary



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The end of the school year is almost here. Our beloved Principal, Ms. Donovan, will be retiring this year. She will be greatly missed. Thank you, Ms. Donovan, for all of your support and kindness.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Menchie's Yogurt fundraiser. It was an overwhelming success. We plan to do it a couple of times next year.

Please come out to the annual Italian dinner/dance on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It is a great way to celebrate the end of the school year. Pre-sales are \$5 per person. On the night of the event, the tickets will be \$6 per person.

We are still selling yearbooks for \$20. Ms. Mohler has created an incredibly beautiful keepsake. Thank you again and again to Ms. Mohler for her hard work on our yearbook.

PTO's last meeting of the year is Thursday, May 12 at 2:15 p.m. We will also be holding elections for next year's Board on that same day. If you are interested in holding a position on the Board, or just helping out, please come to the last meeting of the year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have helped make this year's fundraising efforts a success. Thank you Ms. Cruz, Ms. Donovan, Darcy, Carol, and Ms. Bensen for always assisting as needed. A special thank you must go out to Ms. Mohler. She is our "Unsung Hero." Any time we need anything, we can turn to Ms. Mohler and she does it with a smile. And, finally, Darjon Renna has been an incredible asset to the PTO as our Treasurer. Without Darjon, the PTO would have had to shut down. Thank you for the endless hours you have given to PTO.

Have a safe and fun-filled summer.

Smiles,

Raquel Suarez, PTO President

**Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.**

Nelson Mandela

### After-Care News

Aftercare students had a "hopping" good time at our annual egg hunt. Thank you, Ms. Darcy and Ms. Farkas for volunteering to hide our eggs. You did an eggcellent job! A fun time was had by all; especially the 15 golden and funny bunny egg winners!

The tomatoes, green peppers, green onion, cabbage and strawberries are doing nicely and should almost be ready for eating. We are looking forward to enjoying the fruits and vegetables of our labor!



## VITAL INFORMATION

Typically the next few pages are reserved for your students work, however, this month's work in electronic form became corrupt and threatened the rest of the newsletter. We apologized for this inconvenience and it will be restored by next year's first edition.

Thank you for your understanding.



This is a fun time of year in music.

Pre K, K and 1st grades are learning the ingredients that make up music using plastic colored tubes called BOOM-Wacker's. They are fun to play and the students are having loads of fun.

Second grade is making a book come alive with percussion instruments Titled Crocodile Beat. Each animal in the story is a different instrument with a different rhythm.

Third grades is learning about and playing recorders which are flute like instruments.

Fourth and 5th graders are learning a piece of music on the xylophones and drums. This is a very difficult piece using syncopated rhythms. Each student will learn everyone else's part.

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**Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.**

Nelson Mandela

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### **Coach Mack Says:**

The warm weather is back, please make sure you take proper notice of your family's condition when they are out in the sun. The chart below is an easy way to stay on top of heat stroke.

**HEAT STROKE**

**WHO AT RISK**

- SENIOR
- CHILDREN
- ATHLETES
- OUTDOOR WORKERS

**SIGN & SYMPTOM**

- 104 F
- NO SWEATING
- DRY, HOT RED SKIN
- DIZZINESS & HEAD ACHE
- PINPOINT PUPILS
- VOMITING
- UNCONCIOUSNESS

**PREVENTION**

- DRINK ENOUGH
- NO ALCOHOL & CAFFEINE
- COOL SHOWERING
- WEAR LIGHT PROTECTION
- DO NOT STAY CLOSED CAR
- LIMIT OUTDOOR TIME

## MATH NEWS

It's May and math is blooming at Driftwood!

In the month of April, Driftwood ES reached a phenomenal achievement with our re-flexmath.com online math program: We solved 3,000,000 facts! Congratulations boys and girls in grades 2 through 5 on such wonderful accomplishment. Also, we received recognition for being a Top 20 Broward County Public school using at least 45 minutes of instructional usage on our other online program, i-ready.com. By logging onto these programs daily, our boys and girls here at Driftwood have increased their math fluency from 17% to 70%. This simply means 70% of our students here at Driftwood in grades 2 through 5 are fluent in their math facts! That is amazing! Keep up the good work boys and girls!

Parents, remember, you can help at home also. Get your child logged onto re-flexmath.com as well as i-ready.com to increase your child's academic math performance in school. The more the students logged on, the more proficient and practice students are getting on critical math skills. Let's continue to shine through the remainder of the school year and finish strong!

Keep counting boys and girls,  
Ms. Haxton

**MATH**  
1 + 1 = 2  
MAKES YOUR  
LIFE ADD UP!



## Computer Technology

### myON Reading Comes to Driftwood Elementary School

#### Dear Families,

We are proud to inform you our school will be implementing an exciting new literacy program called myON reader to help promote reading and provide every student unlimited access to over 4,000 enhanced digital books with reading supports.

myON reader is the first-of-its-kind personalized literacy environment that integrates student ability with technology to match their reading level with their preferred choice of books into a comprehensive online reading program. Embedded assessments will help teachers and students monitor their reading achievement. As parents, you can share in the learning and excitement with your child through his/her personal dashboard. The dashboard will illustrate how many books they have opened and read, as well as their reading growth.

We are very excited to offer myON reader to promote reading and give students the opportunity to have their own virtual backpack of books from which to choose. myON reader is available at school, home, libraries, and anywhere with Internet access—and on mobile devices—for online and offline reading. Your students should have received login information in their classroom.

In addition to implementing and utilizing myON reader throughout our school, we are excited to give our families the opportunity to spend time with their children in an engaging, fun reading environment to build reading stamina and fluency and simply to have fun reading together. For more information on myON reader and links to videos and reference materials, please visit [www.myON.com](http://www.myON.com).

More information will be coming home prior to the end of school. Please make sure that you take full advantage of this program for your children.

## Counselor's Corner

During the month of April students who exhibited the trait of "Tolerance" throughout the year were our Champions of Character. These students were chosen because they recognize and respect differences, values and the beliefs of other people.

Congratulations to our school winners Sofia Guarisma and Ciera Maples. These two fifth grade students go above and beyond to make sure everyone is treated fairly. A big round of applause goes out to our Teachers of Character, Mrs. Warren and Mr. Boylan. Our champions for April make a big difference in our school climate by making sure everyone feels respected and included.

The character trait that we will be focusing on in May is perseverance. Many great men and women have worked hard to overcome various disabilities to achieve greatness. Others had to rise above poverty and prejudice, but they all had one thing in common – perseverance! They overcame personal weaknesses and turned them into strengths. Albert Einstein, Winston Churchill, Stevie Wonder and James Earl Jones are just some of the famous people who worked hard to overcome their difficulties and do something special with their lives.

Talk to your children about perseverance and setting their own short and long-range goals. Share your own personal experiences of growing up and working through hard times. Provide positive reinforcement for efforts your son or daughter makes toward setting goals and achieving them. You can also reinforce the value of perseverance at home by encouraging your children to dream big dreams and never give up.

Theodore Roosevelt stated, "It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed. In this life we get nothing save by effort.

### Parents of Fifth Grade Students

It is important that your child's contact information is correct in the school's database. If your address or phone numbers have changed, please advise Mrs. Mohler or Ms. Elias in the front office. Important information will be sent out regarding middle school events, placement, etc. now and in the coming months.

In May fifth grade students will be visiting Driftwood Middle School to receive information regarding policies & procedures, as well as to get information on academic placement, classes and electives. Our students may even get a concert from the fabulous Driftwood Middle School band!! Encourage your children to discuss their feelings as they move into a new chapter of life.





Mrs. Quinones  
Reading Corner

### **Choose a Quiet Time and Place**

Set aside a quiet time with little to no distractions—even ten to fifteen minutes is a great place to start, add time as you can. Find a comfortable place to sit together. Make reading a special activity for you and your child.

### **Help Your Child Select Books**

Consider titles that are appropriate based on their interests and reading ability. Want some help in learning how to do this? Refer to

### **Make Reading Interactive**

Read using voices that are interesting and playful. Talk with your child and encourage them to make connections to their own experiences or real world. Allow time for you and your child to ask questions, make observations, and enjoy the text.

### **Expand Language and Vocabulary**

Encourage your child to point to pictures that match the words being read, as well as read aloud familiar words. Explain new words and direct your child's attention to certain pictures, to provide details and meaning.



“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.”

***Maimonides***

**April**

### **Champion of Character**

#### **Pre-K / Kindergarten**

Mrs. Munoz-Aayan Khan  
Mrs. Biesel- Ja'nyah Kendra Henricy  
Mrs. Hill-Chrisnailin Vargas  
Mrs. Major-Brendon Suarez  
Mrs. Uribe-Giana Silva

#### **First Grade**

Mrs. Estrada- Ryan Manriquez  
Ms. Guffey-Lameisha Tarpley  
Ms. Loffredo-Paul Castano  
Ms. Morra-Fervin Escobar

#### **Second Grade**

Ms. Ackley-La'Naiyah Leonard  
Mrs. Gonzalez-Aiden Barlitt  
Mrs. Jones-Jamine Bernard-Frank  
Ms. Matthews-Haley Leopold  
Ms. Martinez-Tommie Osceola  
Ms. Rosati-Seley Vasquez

#### **Third Grade**

Mrs. Akel-E'Maya Cartwright  
Mrs. Coleman-Antonio Gutierrez  
Ms. London-Breanna Lopez  
Mrs. Loubriel-Amaris Zurita

#### **Fourth Grade**

Mrs. Guffey-Kevin Parminand  
Mrs. Kefalas-Angelie Quiles  
Ms. Schlitz-Mahher Mazhar  
Ms. Whitaker-Burton Harjo

#### **Fifth Grade**

Ms. Kolitides-Ciera Maples  
Mrs. Cento-Juliett Cid  
Mr. Mulchan-Micheberley Jean Baptiste  
Mr. Wetcher- Sofia Guarisma


#### Students of the Month

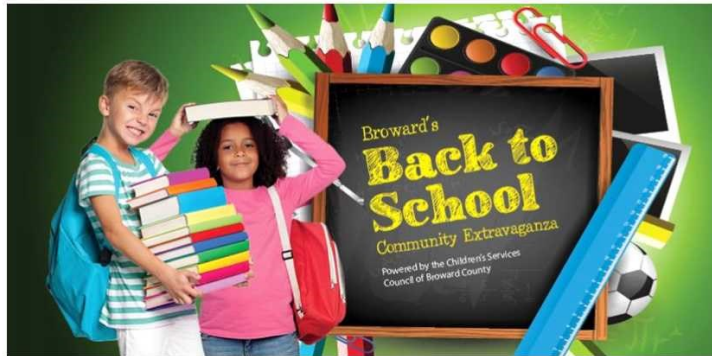
Sofia Guarisma  
Ciera Maples

#### Teacher of Character

Mrs. Warren  
Mr. Boylan

# MAY 2016

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12 1st & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade EOY Reading Test Papa John's Pizza Night 	13 1st & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade EOY Reading Test  5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Busch Gardens Trip
16	17	18	19 <b>ITALIAN NIGHT</b> Come join the fun, pasta and dancing with friends.	20
23	24	25	26 <b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day and Picnic</b>	27 No School Teacher Planning Day
30 No School Memorial Day	31			



Broward County School Social Workers

**DRIFTWOOD ELEMENTARY - SPONSORED**

**SHOE DRIVE**

**April 25<sup>th</sup> – May 26<sup>th</sup>**

Help children in need start the new school year  
with what they need

Bring your **New and Gently Worn Sneakers**

(all sizes)

to your school to support this campaign

**ONLY SNEAKERS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

**Bring shoes to Mrs. Guffey's room #912**





**DRIFTWOOD  
ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL**

2700 NW 69TH AVE.  
HOLLYWOOD, FL  
33024

(754) 323-5450  
<http://>

[www.broward.k12.fl.us/  
driftwoodelem/](http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/driftwoodelem/)

Principal:  
Gladys Donovan



Asst. Principal:  
Lourdes Cruz

HOME OF THE DRAGONS

*Title 1 Parent Information / Website Locations*  
**Driftwood Elementary's "School Improvement Plan (SIP)"**

which contains the school's **Title I School Parent Involvement Plan (PIP)**

<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/driftwoodelem/>

**The District Parental Involvement Plan**

[http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/titleone/PARENT\\_INVOLEMENT.html](http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/titleone/PARENT_INVOLEMENT.html)

**District Parent Involvement Policy 1165**

<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies/>

*Paper copies of all of the above documents are available for your review on the Parent Shelf in the front office and at all of the SAC Meetings.*

*If you would like to request your own copy, please contact Mrs. Estrada through the front office, your child's agenda or email: [ligia.estrada@browardschools.com](mailto:ligia.estrada@browardschools.com)*

**School Public Accountability Report (SPAR), FCAT Scores and Reports, School Grades, AYP Reports:**

<http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/>

## *Title I Parent Training & Other Available Resources*

**School Board of Broward County Title I Center  
for Parent Involvement**

<http://title1.browardschools.com>

**Parent Training**

- School/District/Community
- Workshops
- Title I Parent Training Academy (see below)
- MegaSkills Training
- Schoolwide Workshops
- Title I Parent Center
- Computer Literacy Training

**Compassionate Hearts – Serving Hands, Inc.**

2300 NW22nd Street  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311  
Phone: 954-733-6476  
<http://www.ch-sh.org>

**Broward County's District Parent Involvement  
Website**

<http://www.getinvolvedineducation.com/parents/>

**The Florida Parental Information and Resource  
Center**

University of South Florida (Florida PIRC at USF)  
3500 East Fletcher Avenue, Suite #301  
Tampa, FL 33613  
Phone: 813-974-5458  
<http://www.floridapartnership.usf.edu/>

**Family Network on Disabilities, Inc. (FND)**

Phone: 727-523-1130  
Toll: 800-825-5736  
<http://fndfl.org/>

**Florida School Choice Parent Resource Center**

<http://www.knowyourchoices.org/>

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