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## FCAT Writes

FCAT Writes will take place on **Tuesday, February 28th**. All students will take part in this assessment. Please make sure that your child has had a good night sleep as well as a good breakfast that morning. Thank You.

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## 5th Grade News

FCAT EXPLORER passwords are out! If it is possible for your child to log on a few times a week and either do elementary Math Station or Science Station, it would help your child's preparation! Please continue to sign those 100 Book Challenge papers; a minimum of 30 min. is required. Ask your child for a recent math quiz. If they are scoring less than 70%, consider tutoring. Enjoy the long weekend!

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## Field Study dates this week

*Students must turn in a permission form to participate. See Mr. Walker if you need one. A complete list of February Field Study dates are on our website: [www.ableschool.org](http://www.ableschool.org)*

2/23 & 2/24: **6A**

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## The ABLE School PTO Needs You

ABLE School's first PTO meeting of 2012 will be on **Tuesday, 2/21 @ 6:00pm**. Support ABLE School and make a positive impact on your child's academic success. Attend the meeting or email: [pto@ableschool.org](mailto:pto@ableschool.org) for more info.

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## Survey

Parents, please click the following link and complete the 2011-12 ABLE Parent Survey: <https://surveys.stjohns.k12.fl.us/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=8223182>

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## Substitute Teachers Needed

ABLE School is in need of some new substitute teachers. In order to be a substitute teacher, you must be approved by the St. Johns County School District. If interested, please call Ms. Tammie for additional information.

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## PB&J

From Ms. Carver: In an effort to help students who typically can not afford the normal charge for lunch on a daily basis and/or **\*\*forget their money\*\***, I will offer a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for \$1.50. Students, if you need a sandwich please inform your first block teacher so he/she can send the information with their attendance to the office and I can have the sandwich prepared. **If a student has forgotten their money I will as a courtesy extend their charge for the sandwich until the next day.**

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## What do you think?

On Thursday, 2/9, St. Augustine Record included the following article "**Our View: Don't let charter schools take away money from public schools**" in their Opinion section: <http://staugustine.com/opinions/2012-02-08-2#.TzUz-PmLJS8>. We are encouraging our ABLE School Parents to respond to The Record with their opinion.

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## Important Dates

2/20: NO SCHOOL  
2/21: SAC & PTO meeting  
2/24: CHANGE Term ends  
2/27: STREEM Term begins  
2/28: FCAT Writing (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

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## Feb. Pillar of Character

Respect: A person of character values all persons, lives by the Golden Rule, respects the dignity, privacy, and freedom of others, is courteous and polite to all, and is tolerant and accepting of differences.

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## Stay Connected

Be sure to Like ABLE School on **Facebook** & remember you can also access the **ABLE Gazette online** @ [www.ableschool.org](http://www.ableschool.org) and while visiting our site be sure to sign-up to receive school updates via email.

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## Lunch Menu 2/20-2/24

*Menu Subject to Change  
Lunch prices are \$3.50 per student.*

### Monday...

NO SCHOOL

### Tuesday...

Chicken Cheesy Mac, Rolls, Corn, Fruit

### Wednesday...

Pizza – Cheese or Pepperoni

### Thursday...

Sloppy Joe, French Fries, Carrots w/ Ranch

### Friday...

Beef Burrito, Nachos & Cheese, Fruit

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## Login to Reading Plus

Remember, you can log into [www.readingplus.com/users](http://www.readingplus.com/users) at home for extra time. You may complete up to two 45 min. sessions per day.

**Site code: ablecharter**

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## True or False?

A polar bear's skin is black and its fur is not white, but actually transparent.



The first student to email the correct answer to [pto@ableschool.org](mailto:pto@ableschool.org) receives an ABLE buck.

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## ABLE Bucks for Fun Facts

Students, have a Fun Fact for the ABLE Gazette? Email [pto@ableschool.org](mailto:pto@ableschool.org) your Fun Fact. We will need to verify its validity so be sure to include your source. If we choose to publish your Fun Fact you will receive an ABLE buck.

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## Reading Plus

Congratulations to the students that recently leveled up in Reading Plus!

Adkison, Thomas	Capasso, Alyssa	Fay, Dylan	Marchese, Andrew	Smith, Chloe
Alexa, Traci	Cook, Emily	Fountain, Joseph	McDaniel, Max	Spore, Dalton
Allgary, Julia	Davis, Walker	Izzi, Luca	McRae, Alexander	Wilson, Trenatee
Biletskov, Tallulah	Erkelens, Kailey	Laughlin, Patti	Schonder, Charlie	Schonder, Charlie

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## Black History Month

February is Black History Month, so during the CHANGE Unit Mrs. Bagby's Wednesday classes will be taking a walking tour of St. Augustine civil rights history. We will be gone most of the day. Be sure to wear your walking shoes. For lunch we will have pizza downtown. Make sure that you bring money for pizza OR bring a bag lunch with you. (\$6.00 for cheese pizza and a drink, more if you want toppings or specialty pizza) Any parent who are interested in chaperoning, please check the schedule below for your child's class and contact Mrs. Bagby at [bagby@ableschool.org](mailto:bagby@ableschool.org).

6B - Wed. Jan. 25	8B - Wed. Feb. 8	7B - Wed. Feb. 22
6A - Wed. Feb. 1	8A - Wed. Feb. 15	7A - Wed. Feb. 29

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## FCAT Explorer

Dear Parents: We are pleased to inform you that the Florida Department of Education offers students in Florida's public school system access to an educational Web site called FCAT Explorer. This free resource is designed to help your child practice reading, math, and science skills outlined in the Sunshine State Standards. Currently, FCAT Explorer offers reading programs for 3rd, 4th, 6th, 8th, and 10th grades, math programs for 5th, 8th, and 10th grades, and science programs for 5th, 8th, and 11th grades. You can find FCAT Explorer on the Internet at [www.fcateexplorer.com](http://www.fcateexplorer.com). Your child's classroom teacher will provide your child with a sign-in name and password.

FCAT Explorer practice programs provide your child with practice questions and other educational materials that strengthen the skills measured by the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) for reading, math, and science. The FCAT Explorer provides a creative, exciting context for your child's learning experience while reinforcing subject areas such as science and history.

### About FCAT Explorer:

- FCAT Explorer is available to all Florida public school children, their teachers, and their parents.
- Children can access the FCAT Explorer from computers at school or at home.
- FCAT Explorer includes a Parent and Family Guide, offering practical advice and focused activities for parents, guardians, and mentors who want to help children succeed.
- FCAT Explorer is free. **There is no cost to students, teachers, schools, or school districts.**

For your child to use FCAT Explorer at home, your home computer must meet the technical requirements listed below. If you have any questions concerning these technical requirements or the use of FCAT Explorer, please contact the FCAT Explorer Help Desk toll-free at 1-888-750-3228 or click on the "Contact Us" e-mail link available on the FCAT Explorer Web site. Technical support staff will be happy to assist you Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM.

- **Operating System:** Windows 98 or higher or Macintosh system 9.0 or higher
- **Web Browser:** Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.0 or higher or Netscape Navigator 4.8 or higher recommended. **Please note:** Netscape Navigator 6.0 is not supported for FCAT Explorer use on any operating system.
- **Plug-ins:** Macromedia Flash Player 6 minimum. Science Station requires Flash Player 7 or higher. (a quick and easy download is available from the FCAT Explorer Web site.)
- **Display Resolution:** SVGA (800 x 600 or higher) recommended; VGA (640 x 480) minimum.
- **Display Color Depth:** 16-bit (thousands of colors) recommended; 8-bit (256 colors) minimum,
- **Internet Connection:** 56.6 kbps modem or network connection speed recommended (28.8 kbps modem min.)
- **Sound:** A sound card and speakers or headphones are optional.

We believe you and your child will find the FCAT Explorer practice programs to be a valuable learning resource. Regards, Mrs. DiBerardino-Coggin