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In this issue...

Be There
Teachers Recognized by Arnold Palmer Hospital
Pine Ridge High Students and Teacher Participate in National Research Program
Deltona High Athletic Director Nationally Certified
Art Teachers Exhibit Work at Arthaus
Opportunities for Volunteers and Partners in Schools
Help Stop Bullying

Be There

Learning begins at home. Be your child's favorite teacher.

Teachers Recognized by Arnold Palmer Hospital

Deborah Johnson, teacher at Hinson Middle, and Janet Stone, teacher at George Marks Elementary, recently received the Arnold Palmer Hospital Champion for Healthy Children award. This award is determined based on usage of HealthTeacher, an online health education curriculum which was provided to every teacher in Volusia County by Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children.

Pine Ridge High Students and Teacher Participate in National Research Program

Kaelyn Badura and Colleen Tilley, Pine Ridge High students, travelled to the California Institute of Technology in July to learn research techniques in collaboration with the [NASA/IPAC Teacher Archive Research Program](#). The students got the opportunity because their AP Physics teacher, Diane Sartore, is among 12 teachers across the nation who partnered with professional scientists to carry out an original research project. They will be part of a group of 10 students and their teachers researching Bright-Rimmed Clouds.

Throughout the 2011-12 school year, the students will teach the research techniques to other students in their respective schools. The team members will then collaborate on-line and via teleconferences. Once they come to some conclusions and verify their results, they will write a paper and design a poster to be presented at the 2012 American Astronomical Society conference in January.

Deltona High Athletic Director Nationally Certified

Jim Gawriluk, athletic director for Deltona High, was recently recognized by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association as a certified athletic administrator. The voluntary certification process identifies those directors nationally who demonstrate a certifiable level of both experience and expertise in the administration of interscholastic athletics and includes a comprehensive written examination.

Art Teachers Exhibit Work at Arthaus

Arthaus is currently featuring the Volusia County Art Educators' Exhibit, which will continue through Friday, October 14. The exhibit highlights the creative works of local art educators. Arthaus is located at 3840 S. Ridgewood Avenue, Port Orange. For more information, call (386) 767-0076.

Opportunities for Volunteers and Partners in Schools

From mentoring a student, helping in a classroom, or assisting with events, there is a volunteer job to suit every person's background and interest. There are also many ways businesses and organizations can enhance student learning. Check out the specific opportunities schools have submitted to the district's "Volunteer and Partner Web-Listings." Visit <http://myvolusiaschools.org>; select the Parents & Students tab, scroll down to Programs and click Volunteers/Partners. You can access the opportunities from the announcements page.

Help Stop Bullying

Bullying is a widespread and serious problem that can happen anywhere. It is not a phase children have to go through, it is not "just messing around," and it is not something to grow out of. Bullying can cause serious and lasting harm.

Although definitions of bullying vary, most agree that bullying involves: 1) imbalance of power (people who bully use their power to control or harm and the people being bullied may have a hard time defending themselves); 2) intent to cause harm (actions done by accident are not bullying; the person bullying has a goal to cause harm); and 3) repetition (incidents of bullying happen to the same person over and over by the same person or group). Bullying can take many forms. Examples include: verbal (name-calling, teasing); social (spreading rumors, leaving people out on purpose, breaking up friendships); physical (hitting, punching, shoving); or cyberbullying (using the Internet, mobile phones or other digital technologies to harm others).

Here are some strategies to share with your child about bullying:

- Tell them to stop.
- Walk away. Do not let them get to you. If you walk away or ignore them, they will not get that satisfaction.
- Protect yourself. Sometimes you cannot walk away. If you are being physically hurt, protect your-self so that you can get away.
- Tell an adult you trust. Talking to someone could help you figure out the best ways to deal with the problem. In some cases, adults need to get involved for the bullying to stop.
- Find a safe place. Go somewhere that you feel safe and secure like the library, a favorite teacher's classroom, or the office.
- Stick together. Stay with a group or individuals that you trust.
- Find opportunities to make new friends. Explore your interests and join school or community activities such as sports, drama, or art. Volunteer or participate in community service.

The Jeffrey Johnston Stand Up for All Students Act (Florida Statute 1006.147) prohibits the bullying or harassment, including cyber bullying, of any public K-12 student or employee. Schools should be a safe place for teachers and children to teach and learn. In the instance that you suspect your child might be a victim of bullying or might be the perpetrator of bullying you are encouraged to contact your school administrator immediately. (Information adapted from StopBullying.gov.)



For more information, to make comments or to add your name to the mailing list, please e-mail VCS Community Information at CommunityInformation@volusia.k12.fl.us.

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