

Hamilton Innovator

Mr. Pfeiffer, Principal

Mr. Fuller, Assistant Principal

Mrs. MacDonald, School Administration Manager, 21st Century Site Coordinator

Here's What's Happening Around Hamilton!

Kindergarten- We are so excited to begin KinderRoots! We will be learning to read a different shared story each week. Please practice the sight words list every night so your child will become a better reader. In math, we are starting to learn about addition and subtraction. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our Magnet Event on Feb. 12 to show off our engineering skills!

First Grade- First grade had an exciting day learning about the daytime and nighttime sky at the SSC Planetarium. Thank you to the many chaperones! We are now busy with our animal habitats integrated unit. Students will research different biomes like the ocean, desert, rain forest, and the arctic. Students are using their knowledge of living and nonliving things to create a diorama of their favorite habitat. Come check them out on Feb. 12. Thank you for all that you do to ensure success in our young learners and build our future engineers!

Second Grade- Get ready for severe weather! Our 2nd grade students are working on their integrated unit on different types of weather. Students are researching hurricanes, tornadoes, blizzards, droughts, and floods. Now, they will have the opportunity to engineer a weather gadget to survive in severe weather out of various materials. Using a budget, students will have to calculate how much the materials cost, how much they need of each material, and calculate total cost. We are very excited to be integrating math, reading, and science together! You can see finished products on February 12!

Third Grade- February is crunch month for our third graders. We have finished our integrated unit on inner planetary rovers. They used the Engineering Design Process to come up with their rover design after finding the attributes of the planet and calculating the cost of their vehicle. They designed some very creative rovers. Come to Magnet Night to see these as well as our tomb lighting projects and our Boomtown cities. We continue to work on fractions. Every Friday is now "FSA" Friday when we work on sample FSA questions. Please ensure your student reads every night and practices multiplication tables.

Fourth Grade- Fourth grade students did an outstanding job on the Erosion Unit. The students learned about erosion, wrote an opinion essay in response to the prompt, "Should Florida spend millions of dollars to repair beaches damaged by erosion?", and followed the engineering design process to create a solution to beach erosion. We are proud of their efforts! Please ensure that students complete all homework each week. Thank you for supporting homework at home. Check your child's planners for daily homework. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher. See you on Feb. 12.

Fifth Grade- Fifth grade is starting their exciting integrated unit, Sturdy Structures. This unit will allow students to explore different climate zones and help them understand the factors that determine a location's climate. They will then design, plan and build a sturdy structure and roof to withstand elements in the tropical climate. Our final products will be on display at our 4E Engineering Event, so we hope to see you on February 12. Also, please return permission slips and \$ for the mud walk field trip ASAP.



Upcoming Events

February 7

PTA Spirit Night at Cici's Pizza 6PM

February 12

E⁴: Engineering Extravaganza Evening Event
STEM stations, Pizza and Prizes! 6-7:30 PM

February 14

PTA V-grams delivery; Progress Reports

February 18

No School, President's Day

February 28

SAC Meeting 6:00 PM

March 4 - March 8

Book Fair Week!

March 5

Moms & Muffins, grades PreK-2 8:45 AM

March 7

Moms & Muffins, grades 3-5 8:45 AM
FSA Parent Workshop 5:45 PM

March 12

FSA Parent Workshop 9:00AM

March 18 - March 22

No School; Spring Break

STUDENT SHOUT OUT!

Congratulations to 5th Grader, Xavier Butts, our student of the month! He was treated to breakfast and a \$50.00 check by the Sertoma Club! Way to go, Xavier!



News and Notes

School Hours Reminder

Hamilton reminds families that the learning begins promptly at **8:35 AM**. We have had a steady increase in the number of tardy students in the mornings. Please note, **if a student is tardy, a parent MUST sign in the student in the front office**. Breakfast is only served from 8:05-8:35 AM. **Parents, be here by 3:05 PM to pick up your child (2:05 PM on Wednesdays)**. Early check out ends thirty minutes prior to dismissal.

Black out Bullying Week: January 28-February 1

We participated in Black out Bullying the week of 1/29-2/2. Intermediate grades worked on anti-bullying posters, essays and a public service announcement. Our school collected 100+ acts of kindness during the week!

Title I Information

Families, thank you for your support at last month's APTT nights. We are thankful for all the support you give to your child(ren)! We are proud to be partners with you!

Do you know about the SCPS Parent Resource Center? The PRC includes a resource library with over 1,200 books and educational games to check out and use at home to support student learning! The PRC also has a computer lab for student use.

Mark your calendars! Title I invites you to the Parent Workshop: Pop Open A New Book on March 14. The interactive learning stations will be designed to promote strong reading skills with our 3rd and 4th grade students. Popcorn, a new book, and take home materials will also be provided. Email SCPSfamily@scps.us for more info.

Literacy Week: February 4- February 8

Each day this week Hamilton will be celebrating literacy with various events! On **February 5th**, students are encouraged to come dressed as his/her favorite book character. We will be calculating the total amount of reading minutes for the week. Let's see if we can beat our 76,000 minutes of coding we accumulated during Hour of Code week in December! We will be on the lookout for students "caught" reading to celebrate these readers on our school TVs and highlight them under **#Hamiltonreads** on our Twitter and Facebook page. Let's get reading, Hamilton!

Art News

In art, students have been studying several artists to inspire their creativity. To kick off Black History Month, students studied various African American artists, such as abstract artist Alma Woodsey Thomas, who was the first African American woman to have a solo exhibit at the Whitney Museum in New York, as well as Romare Bearden, an influential artist during the Harlem Renaissance. Beginning February 16 through March 8, Mrs. Kendle and fifth grader, Shanzeh Arslanturk will have their collaborative clay pieces on display at the Sanford Welcome Center for the "Dynamic Duo" themed showcase. Join them for the reception on February 16 from 6-9p.m. In the upcoming months, Hamilton student artwork will be on display at the Lake Mary Heathrow Festival of the Arts from March 2 -3 and at the Seminole Town Center Mall from April 28 -May 5.

Magnet Update

Mark your calendars for **February 12th**! We will be highlighting our school's engineering curriculum at our third annual **E⁴ Engineering Extravaganza Evening Event** from 6-7:30 PM. We will have exciting STEM stations for kids of all ages and your child's engineering designs will be on display! Pizza and prizes will be available, too! You won't want to miss this engineering expo!

We are extremely proud to announce that Hamilton Elementary School of Engineering and Technology has once again been named a **National Magnet School of Distinction** by Magnet Schools of America, the national association for magnet and theme-based schools! This is an honor!

Elementary application period for incoming Kindergarten students for 2018-2019 school year is open now until March 1st. All families must apply to attend Hamilton, **even if you have siblings that already attend our school**. Visit the following site to learn more: <https://www.scps.k12.fl.us/district/departments/choices/>

Parent Corner Parent Survey Now Open. Please take a moment and take a three-question survey regarding our school. Click on the link on our website. We value your input! All responses are collected anonymously - no personally identifiable information will be included as a part of the survey. **The survey will be open from January 22 to February 22.**



Recent Highlights

Astronaut Training at KSC!

Hamilton's third grade Innovators had a "blast" at the Kennedy Space Center. They experienced a simulated space launch, programmed robots, and planted peas that NASA will be using in their research!

Want to see more highlights?

Have you "liked us" on Facebook?

<https://www.facebook.com/hamiltonelem/>

Are you "following us" on Twitter? @hamiltonengtech

Have you checked out our website lately?

www.hamilton.scps.k12.fl.us

