



# The Ambassador



Freedom 7 Elementary School of International Studies  
An International Baccalaureate World School

Kathryn Lott, Principal

Lisa Megown, Assistant Principal

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

March 22, 2024



Dear Freedom 7 families,

Sadly, the Rain, Rain did not go away and we decided to postpone Field Day. Thank you, Coach Detetta, for being ready to pivot on a dime and reschedule Field Day for April 12<sup>th</sup>. This means another IF Spirit Shirt Day!!! We will get with our volunteers and be ready mid- April!

Go Eagles! March 21, we welcomed our 2024-2025 newly accepted families at our New Family Orientation Night! Remember, families may still apply to be added to the waitlist beginning April 15th. There is still time to tell your friends about Freedom 7! Congratulations to our Freedom 7 family!!!

We have officially made it to SPRINK BREAK! We wish everyone time to relax and recharge. As the weather warms up, we encourage our families to explore the great outdoors and engage in outdoor activities. From nature walks to outdoor science experiments, there are endless opportunities for exciting experiences in the fresh air. Enjoy the sunrises, the sunsets, and everything in between! We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the Spring!

Have a wonderful break and Happy Easter!

Kathy Lott



**April 1 - April 5**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 1	Day 0

400 Fourth Street South, Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931

Telephone: 321-868-6610 Fax: 321-877-0931 <https://www.brevardschools.org/Freedom7ES>

Freedom 7 Elementary School of International Studies, an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme School, provides a quality public education with a rigorous and relevant transdisciplinary curriculum. Students are encouraged to become critical and open-minded thinkers, lifelong learners and compassionate world citizens who respect cultural diversity and take action to better our world.

Cocoa Beach Junior/Senior High School artists joined our Kindergarten artists to plan a collaborative art project for an upcoming art show. Kindergarten artists were asked to plan and create a character including details, feelings, and tools the character might use. The CB artists asked insightful questions, captured notes and drawings about these characters. Now the CB artists will create clay 3D versions of these characters. The artwork will be displayed at the high school's art show and the kindergarteners will use them to create stories connected to their unit of inquiry about how we express ourselves. How amazing is this?

Can't wait for Mrs. VanVuren to show us the finished products!!!



# Spring Mini-Concerts

## Kindergarten

Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm

ADVENTURE AWAITS!  
JOIN US AT  
**FREEDOM 7  
ELEMENTARY**  
FOR  
Transition  
to  
Kindergarten!  
April 9th  
9:30-11:30  
Meet our Freedom 7 team and  
learn how to prepare for the  
adventure of a lifetime!  
Please RSVP by 4/1  
[RSVP Here](#)

Families: We are encouraging students to read over spring break! Ask your child about his/her pink or yellow reading challenge sheet! All students who return these are eligible for a variety of prizes! Logs are due back to classroom teachers on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>!

Happy Spring Break and happy reading!



**Jennifer Noe, Literacy Coach**

**Spring Break**   
Reading Challenge

# The **BEST** Way to Buy Back-To-School Supplies!

**1st Day School Supplies**

**TEACHER CERTIFIED APPROVED**

- ✓ The Exact School Supplies Your Teacher Requested
- ✓ Name Brand Products Like:

   **TICONDEROGA**

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[1stDaySchoolSupplies.com](http://1stDaySchoolSupplies.com)



We'd like your feedback! Please take the Family Survey.

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I am writing to ask for 15 minutes of your time to complete an online survey that will help us improve your child's school. We have asked YouthTruth – a nonprofit organization that supports hundreds of schools and districts across the country – to conduct an anonymous survey on our behalf.

**The survey window begins on 2/26/2024 and ends @ midnight on 3/24/2024.**

**Please take the survey by clicking/ typing the following link into your browser:**

[CEP \(surveyresults.org\)](https://surveyresults.org)

Please note:

- The survey needs to be completed in one sitting.
- We ask that one member of each household fill out the survey.
- If you have more than one child who attends the same school, you may respond to the survey multiple times - one time per child.
- If you write any comments, please do not include your name or anything else that might identify you. Your responses are anonymous, and they will be combined with the responses of other parents and guardians before being shared back with school and district leadership.

We sincerely thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback. **Your response is incredibly valuable to us.**

If you have any questions about the survey, or our plans for how we will use your feedback, please contact Lisa Megown, Assistant Principal, at 321-868-6610 or via email @ [megown.lisa@brevardschools.org](mailto:megown.lisa@brevardschools.org)

Sincerely,

Lisa Megown

# Third & Fourth Grade Bicycle Skills Clinic in PE

April 1 - May 2, 2024

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We're gearing up to learn about bicycle safety! Students in 3rd and 4th grade will have the opportunity to learn and practice bicycle handling skills as part of their PE class.

To help us prepare for these lessons, please review the information below.

## EQUIPMENT

If your child has a bicycle and **already** bikes to school, they will be encouraged to practice on their own bicycle instead of the loaner bikes that will be provided by the **Space Coast TPO**. Now is a great time to ensure that their bike is in good working order! Take some time to make sure their tires are pumped up, their brakes operate well, and their pedals and chain are moving smoothly. **Helmets are mandatory! If your child has a helmet, please send it in with them. If they do not, helmets will be provided. I can keep student's helmets in the PE room.**

## CLOTHING

Please ensure your child is wearing the proper bicycling attire on PE days. Remind them that loose-legged pants can get caught in the bicycle chain (it has happened!), creating a safety hazard and ruining their pants with chain grease.

## HAIRSTYLES

To ensure the best helmet fit, aim to keep hair in styles that force hair tight against the scalp and toward the nape of the neck. If choosing a hairstyle, avoid high ponytails, buns, or any style that will bundle hair at the top of the head.

## BICYCLE SKILLS DATES

**COLADO:** 4/5, 4/9, 4/12, 4/18, 4/19, 5/1

**NARDELLI:** 4/2, 4/4, 4/11, 4/16, 4/24, 4/29

**PRUNEAU:** 4/3, 4/4, 4/15, 4/16, 4/25, 4/29

**ROBERTSON:** 4/8, 4/10, 4/17, 4/23, 4/30, 5/2

**SCHOON:** 4/2, 4/3, 4/11, 4/15, 4/24, 4/25

**TARVER:** 4/4, 4/9, 4/16, 4/18, 4/29, 5/1



# Freedom 7 Elementary School of International Studies

400 South 4th Street  
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the computer-based **Grade 4-6 Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Writing assessment on April 3, 2024**. The B.E.S.T. Writing assessment is administered in one 120-minute session, and students may work up to half of a typical school day.

If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, the practice tests and answer keys are available at <https://fsassessments.org/families.html>.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing **or** during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them**. If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking a checkbox beside the statement in the secure browser indicating they understand the testing rules.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they click the box to accept the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including the passages, prompts, and writing responses) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment), he or she **will not** be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Lisa Megown at 321-868-6610. For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at [FLFAST.org](http://FLFAST.org).

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Lott

Kathryn Lott, Principal  
Mark J. Rendell, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Phone: (321) 868-6610 • FAX: (321) 877-0951



# Learn about Florida's New Worlds Reading Initiative

Learn How to Build Reading Comprehension!

## Family Literacy Workshop

Friday, April 5, 2024  
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

### Brevard County School District Building

Parents and Family  
Members Invited!

**Free Resources – Books  
– Giveaways –  
Take Home Lunch**

[Pre-register at the link below.](#)



[https://bit.ly/Literacy\\_Apr2024](https://bit.ly/Literacy_Apr2024)





# FUTURE ASTRONAUT ESSAY CONTEST

- Open to BPS students in grades 5-12
- Contest runs March 22-April 3
- Winners will be announced April 5
- Winning students will be invited to participate in the new Astronaut Training Experience (ATX) program at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex (KSCVC) on April 30

\*Winners must provide their own transportation to ESF (2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Melbourne, FL 32940) on the day of the trip. Transportation to KSCVC and lunch will be provided to contest winners.\*

Sponsored By:



Essay Prompt: "Why I Want to Be an Astronaut"

- Imagine the vast expanse of space stretching out before you, the Earth a small, fragile orb amidst the infinite darkness. Now, consider the extraordinary individuals who venture into this unknown territory, exploring the cosmos beyond our planet's atmosphere. As a student, you have the opportunity to ponder your future and the potential paths it might take. Reflect on why you would want to embark on the awe-inspiring journey of becoming an astronaut.
- Consider the following questions as you craft your response:
  - What is it about space exploration that captivates your imagination?
  - How do you envision contributing to humanity's understanding of the universe as an astronaut?
  - What personal qualities and skills that you possess, or aspire to develop, which would make you well-suited for the challenges of space travel?
  - Describe a moment or experience in your life that inspired your interest in space exploration and ignited your desire to pursue a career as an astronaut?
  - How do you believe advancements in space technology and exploration will impact life on Earth, and what role do you envision playing in shaping this future?
- Essay should be 500 words or less. Can be handwritten or typed.
- Responses should be original, thoughtful, persuasive, and demonstrating a deep understanding of the challenges and rewards that come with venturing beyond the confines of our planet.
- ESSAYS SHOULD BE EMAILED IN PDF FORM TO NICOLE KUIPER at [kuiper.nicole@brevardschools.org](mailto:kuiper.nicole@brevardschools.org)

## Essay Rubric: "Why I Want to Be an Astronaut"

- Content and Understanding
  - Addresses all aspects of the prompt comprehensively.
  - Demonstrates a clear understanding of the significance of space exploration.
  - Provides specific examples and details to support points.
- Passion and Motivation
  - Conveys genuine enthusiasm and passion for space exploration.
  - Articulates compelling reasons for wanting to become an astronaut.
  - Shows a strong personal connection to the subject matter.
- Relevance and Clarity
  - Maintains focus on the main topic throughout the essay.
  - Presents ideas in a logical and organized manner.
  - Writing is clear, concise, and free from excessive jargon.
- Innovative Thinking and Creativity
  - Demonstrates originality in ideas and perspectives.
  - Offers creative insights into the future of space exploration.
  - Utilizes imaginative approaches to address challenges and opportunities in space.
- Personal Reflection and Connection
  - Reflects on personal experiences and influences that sparked interest in space exploration.
  - Establishes a strong connection between personal values/aspirations and the astronaut career path.
  - Engages the reader through compelling anecdotes or reflections.
- Grammar, Style, and Mechanics
  - Demonstrates proficiency in grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
  - Exhibits a consistent writing style appropriate for the academic context.
  - Uses language effectively to convey ideas and evoke imagery.

### Scoring:

- Excellent (5): Essay excels in all aspects, demonstrating exceptional insight, passion, and clarity.
- Proficient (4): Essay meets expectations across all criteria with solid content and presentation.
- Competent (3): Essay adequately addresses the prompt but may lack depth or coherence in some areas.
- Developing (2): Essay demonstrates basic understanding but lacks depth or clear organization.
- Insufficient (1): Essay does not effectively address the prompt or lacks coherence and clarity.

