

**PALM VALLEY ACADEMY
MIDDLE SCHOOL
COURSE INFORMATION
2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR**



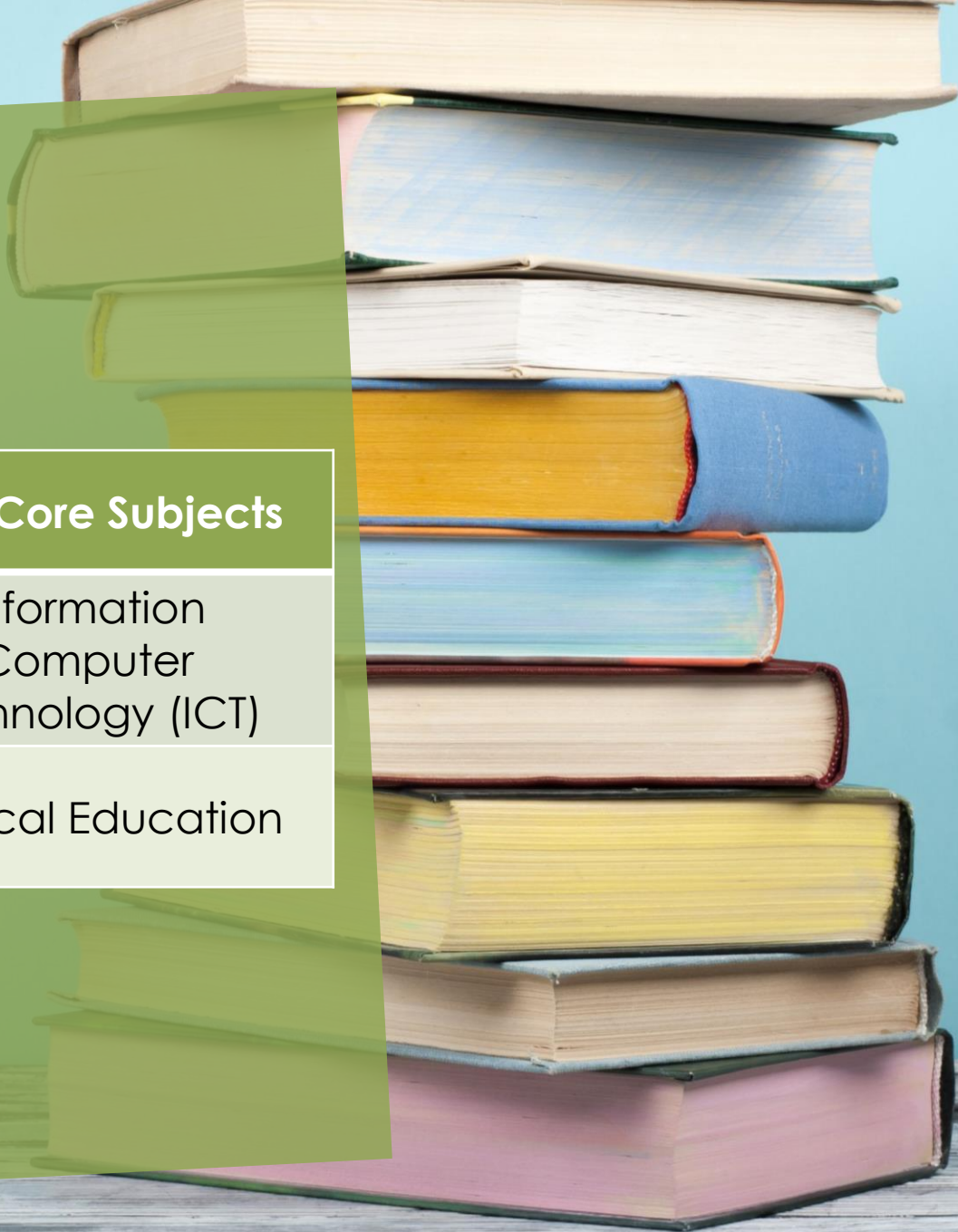
WELCOME TO MIDDLE SCHOOL!

YOUR PVA MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPORT TEAM

Role	Name
Principal	Dr. Joy Reichenberg
Assistant Principal	Mr. Zach Strom
Assistant Principal	Ms. D'Niessa Slocum
Assistant Principal	Mr. Brian Green
Counselor	Ms. Monica Ferguson
Dean	Mr. Ryan Velsor
Instructional Literacy Coach	Ms. Amie Miller

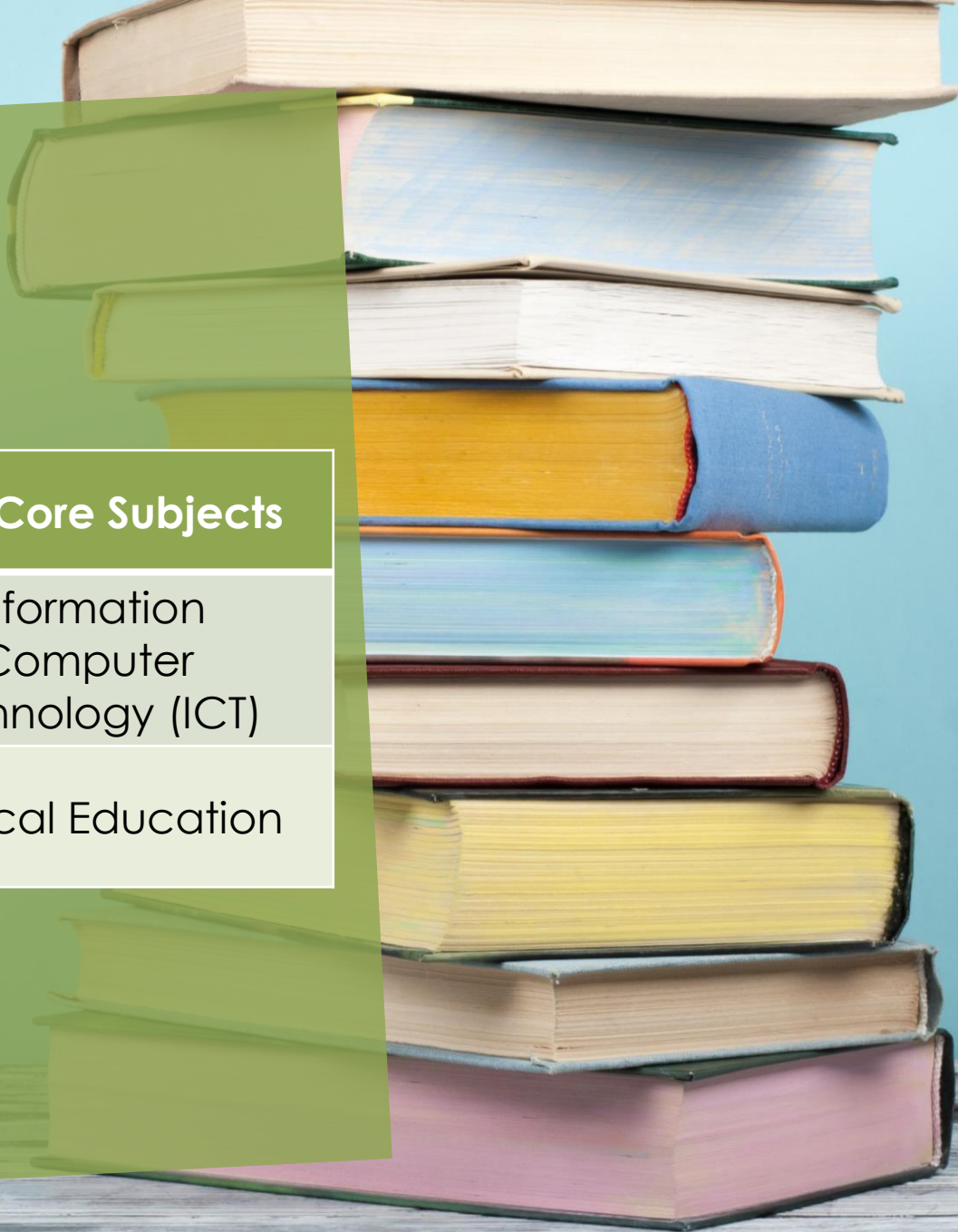
6TH GRADE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Core Subjects (Standard or Advanced)	Non-Core Subjects
Language Arts	Information Computer Technology (ICT)
Math	
Science	Physical Education
World History	



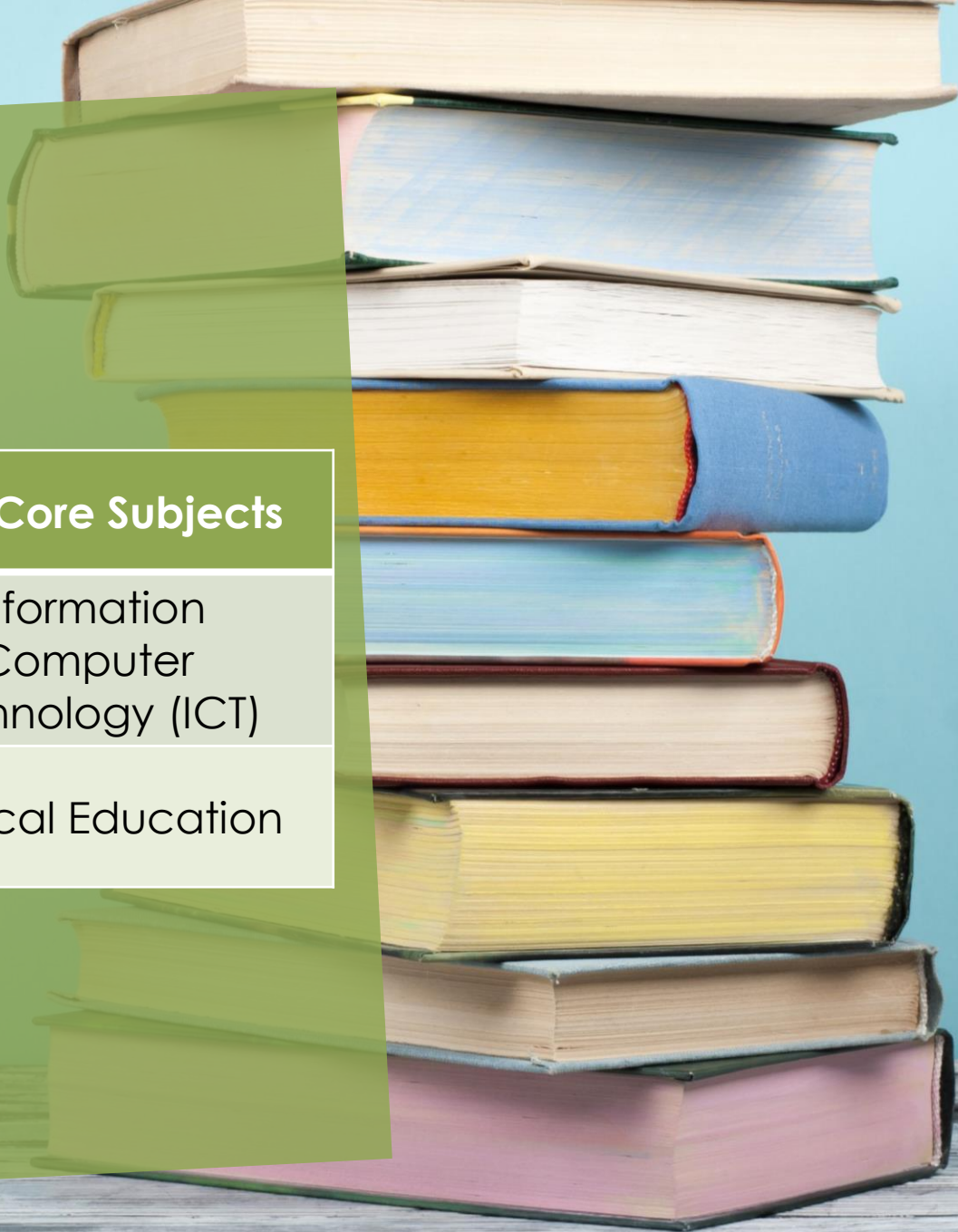
7TH GRADE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Core Subjects (Standard or Advanced)	Non-Core Subjects
Language Arts	Information Computer Technology (ICT)
Math	
Science	Physical Education
U.S. History	



8TH GRADE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Core Subjects (Standard or Advanced)	Non-Core Subjects
Language Arts	Information Computer Technology (ICT)
Math	
Science	Physical Education
Civics	



WHAT ARE THE RIGHT PLACEMENT OPTIONS FOR MY CHILD?



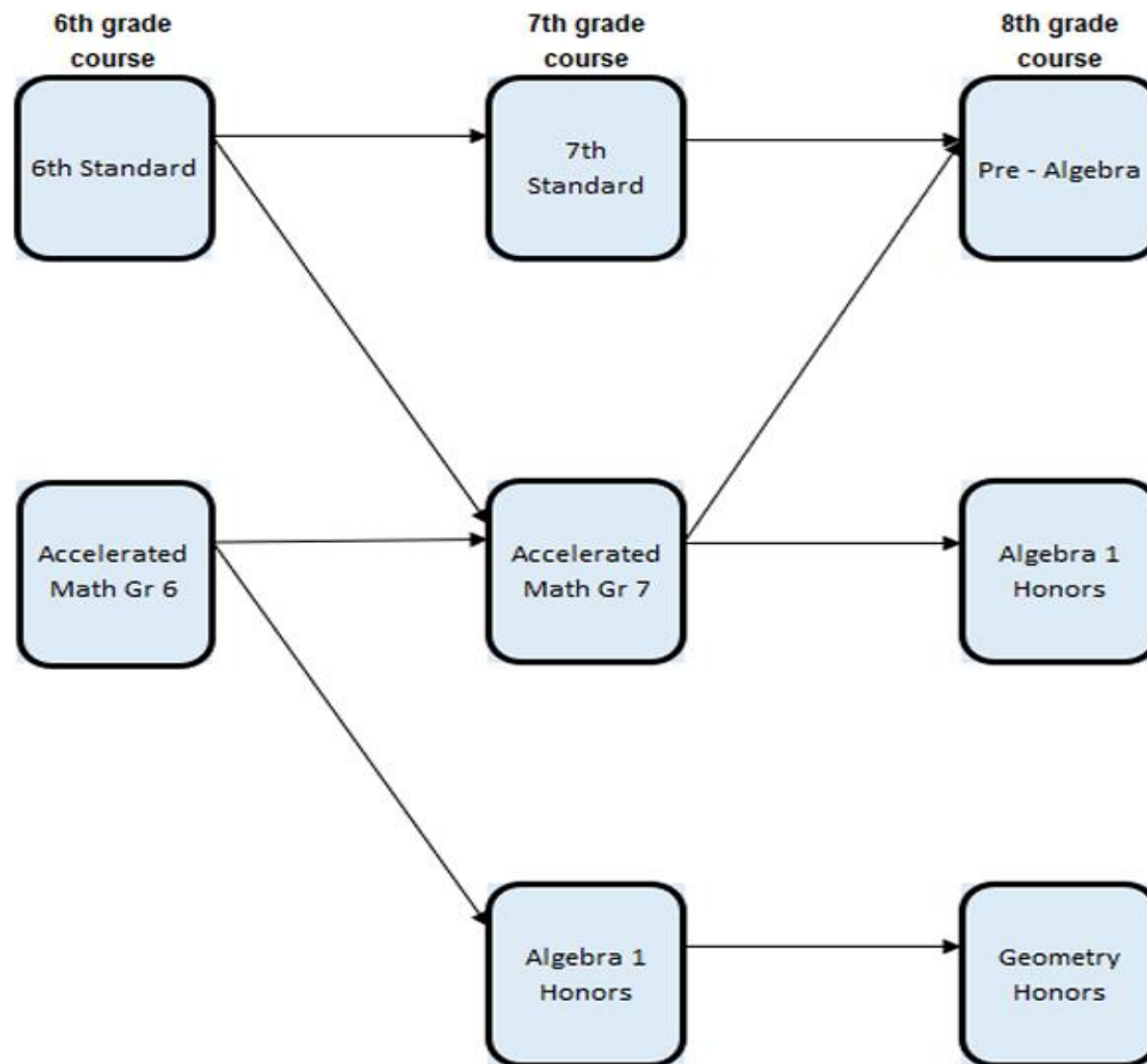
- PVA OFFERS CLASS LEVELS FOR MIDDLE GRADES STUDENTS DEPENDING ON THEIR INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING PATH:
 - STANDARD, ADVANCED, AND FOR SOME SUBJECTS, HIGH SCHOOL HONORS
 - STANDARD AND ADVANCED CLASSES TEACH THE SAME STANDARDS. ADVANCED SECTIONS MAY GO IN MORE DEPTH, HIGHER LEVEL ANALYZING/CRITICAL THINKING, AND MAY MOVE THROUGH SOME CONTENT FASTER.
 - TAKING STANDARD COURSES IN MIDDLE SCHOOL DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOUR CHILD WON'T QUALIFY FOR ACCELERATED HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES.

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE SEQUENCES

Language Arts			
	6 th	7 th	8 th
Standard	M/J Language Arts I	M/J Language Arts II	M/J Language Arts III
Advanced	M/J Language Arts I Advanced	M/J Language Arts II Advanced	M/J Language Arts III Advanced

Science			
	6 th	7 th	8 th
Standard	M/J Comprehensive Science 1	M/J Comprehensive Science 2	M/J Comprehensive Science 3
Advanced	M/J Advanced Comprehensive Science 1	M/J Advanced Comprehensive Science 2	M/J Advanced Comprehensive Science 3 or **Honors Physical Science

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH PROGRESSION



MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES

- **ENROLLMENT IN ELECTIVES ARE NOT GUARANTEED**
- **ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING:**
 - **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
 - **COMPUTERS (ICT 1 FOR 6TH GRADE; ICT 2 FOR 7TH AND 8TH)**
 - **1 ELECTIVE OF CHOICE**
- **EXCEPTIONS ARE MADE ON A PER STUDENT BASIS**

ELECTIVE OPTIONS: PVA

Students may choose from the following electives for the 2023-2024 year:

6 th	7 th	8 th
Exploratory Art (1/2 year) & Exploratory Spanish (1/2 year)	Studio Art	Studio Art
	Spanish Beginning	Spanish Intermediate
STEM	STEM	STEM
News Crew*	News Crew*	News Crew*
Middle School 101	Creative Writing	Creative Writing
Band 1	Band 1, 2, and/or Jazz Band	Band 1/2/3 and/or Jazz Band
Guitar 1		
	Guitar 1 or 2	Guitar 1 or 2
Yearbook*	Yearbook*	Yearbook*
		W.E.B.*

Band requires a fair share fee, along with the cost of purchasing or renting an instrument.

Jazz Band requires Band teacher approval and a concurrent Band class.

When choosing band or guitar, select the class based on the number of years you've been in it. Example: Current 6th grader in Band 1 that wants to take it again would select Band 2.

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*Indicates a separate application is required.

All courses will be tentatively offered based on demand and PVA staffing.

If a student is required to take Intensive Reading or Intensive Math, the second and/or third elective (non-core) course may be replaced with these necessary intervention courses.

COURSE RECOMMENDATIONS & ELECTIVE REQUESTS

- Beginning tonight, you will be able to view course placements in HAC for the 2023-2024 school year. These placements will be based on the teacher recommendations, formative and summative assessments, previous FSA/FAST scores, and student performance in the classroom throughout this school year.
- You should be logged in as your child to see this.
- In HAC, you will then request ONE elective with your child. If you have more than one middle schooler next year, please log in separately and select in each account.
- There will not be an option to select electives that require pre-approval.
- If you have concerns about your child's academic course placements, please first reach out to your child's current teacher in that subject. You may wish to continue the conversation with Ms. Ferguson or an administrator. Requests to change course placements will be considered but are not guaranteed.

DIRECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE REQUEST ENTRY VIA STUDENT HOME ACCESS CENTER (HAC)

1. Log into Home Access Center (HAC) with your child's login ID and password.
2. In HAC, select the **Classes** icon.
3. Select the **Requests** tab.
4. You will see a list of Class Departments.
5. To choose a course, go to **Electives** and select the edit button on the right side. Click the box next to the desired course and hit save.
6. **Please do not choose more than one elective or try to make any changes to any other courses.**
7. Once you have made your selection, you can log off.
8. **The deadline to make your selections in HAC is March 31st.**
9. Please reach out to Mary Dominguez, Computer Operator, at mary.dominguez@stjohns.k12.fl.us if you need assistance.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS & SJMSAA

School Sponsored Athletics

- BASKETBALL
- VOLLEYBALL

SJMSAA Sponsored Events

- FOOTBALL
- CHEERLEADING
- CROSS COUNTRY
- SOCCER
- BASEBALL
- SOFTBALL
- GOLF
- TENNIS
- DANCE TEAM
- PLEASE VISIT THE SJMSAA WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT INFORMATION:

- D'Niessa Slocum, Assistant Principal, Middle School:
dniessa.slocum@stjohns.k12.fl.us
- Monica Ferguson, Middle School Counselor
monica.ferguson@stjohns.k12.fl.us

For help accessing HAC, please reach out to:

- Mary Dominguez, Computer Operator:
mary.dominguez@stjohns.k12.fl.us

JOIN BAND!!!

MR. MATTHEUS



REASONS TO JOIN BAND!



[Link to video](#)



BENEFITS TO PLAYING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

- **INCREASES MEMORY SKILL AND IQ (FULL BODY WORKOUT FOR THE BRAIN)**
- **TEACHES PERSEVERANCE AND ABILITY TO ACHIEVE**
- **IMPROVES READING COMPREHENSION AND MATH SKILLS**
- **CREATES RESPONSIBILITY**
- **INSTILLS A HIGHER APPRECIATION FOR MUSIC**



FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

- MARCHING BAND NIGHT (PLAY WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)
- COLLEGE BASKETBALL PERFORMANCES (POSSIBLE)
- MPA (GET OUT OF SCHOOL FOR A DAY, AND GET A FREE PIZZA PARTY)
- SURPRISE PERFORMANCES BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL (HOLIDAY CAR LOOP, STAFF VS KIDS BASKETBALL GAME)



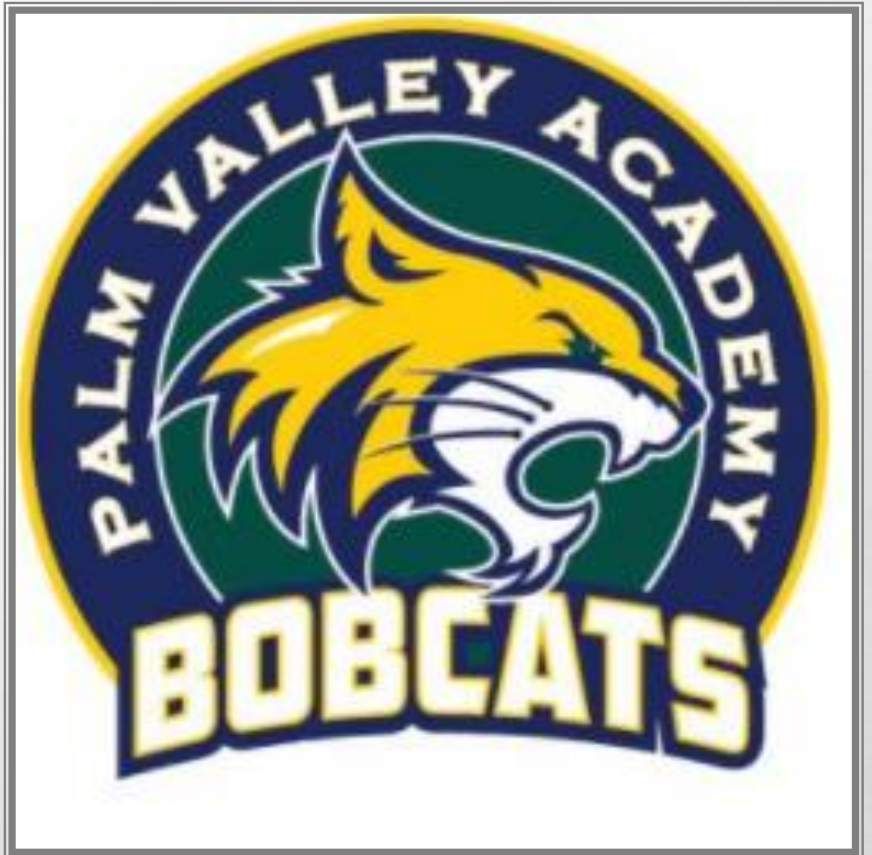
GUITAR!

- LEARN HOW TO READ SHEET MUSIC AND GUITAR TABLATURE
- LEARN CLASSICAL, POP, JAZZ, AND ROCK MUSIC
- COLLABORATE WITH OTHER STUDENTS IN GROUP PROJECTS AND PERFORMANCES



THINGS TO KNOW

- 2-4 CONCERTS PER YEAR
- 1-TIME YEARLY DUES TO SUPPORT PROGRAM
- INSTRUMENT RENTAL FEE (DEPENDENT ON WHAT INSTRUMENT IS PLAYED)
- JAZZ BAND IS CODEPENDENT ON SYMPHONIC BAND





QUESTIONS?

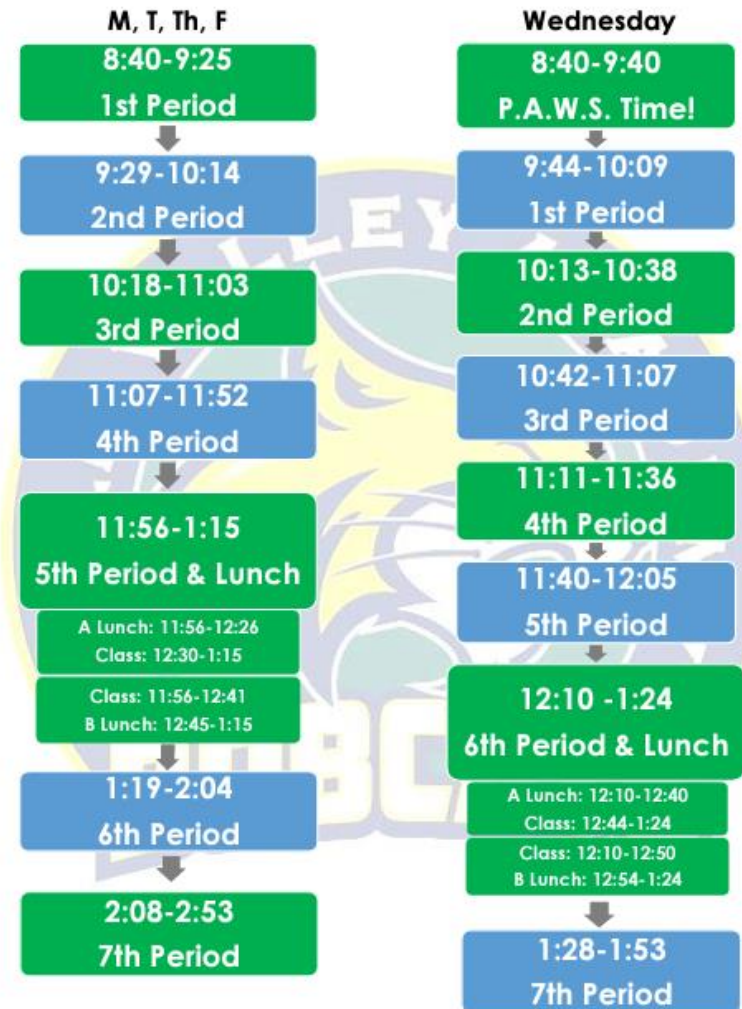
RISING 6TH GRADE PARENTS

ADDITIONAL INFO AHEAD...



2022-2023
Palm Valley Academy
Middle School Bell Schedule

- 2 LUNCH PERIODS
- LUNCH MAY SWITCH ON WEDNESDAYS
- KIDS WILL SIT WITH CLASSMATES DURING THE FIRST WEEKS TO ENSURE EVERYONE MEETS SOMEONE AND FEELS COMFORTABLE IN THE LUNCH ROOM



GRADING IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Category	Formative	Summative
Weighting	30%	70%

Grades	Descriptor
A= 90-100	Outstanding Progress
B=80-89	Above Average Progress
C=70-79	Average Progress
D=60-69	Lowest Acceptable Progress
F=0-59	Failure

What are remediations and re-takes?

WHAT IS HAC?

- HOME ACCESS CENTER CONNECTS YOU TO TEACHERS, THEIR GRADEBOOKS, YOUR CHILD'S SCHEDULE, IS USED TO SELECT CLASSES, AND MORE!
- REPORT CARDS
- ALL STUDENTS ARE GIVEN ACCESS (HOMEROOM TEACHERS CAN ASSIST THEM WITH THEIR LOGIN ID AND PASSWORD.)
- TO SET UP A NEW PARENT/GUARDIAN HAC ACCOUNT [CLICK HERE](#)
- CONTACT MARY.DOMINGUEZ@STJOHNS.K12.FL.US IF YOU STILL NEED ASSISTANCE.
- [HAC FAQ](#)

WHAT IS SCHOOLOGY?

- SCHOOLOGY IS AN ONLINE TOOL THAT MANAGES CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENTS, GRADING AND OTHER CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT TASKS AND IS ALSO A COMMUNICATION PLATFORM FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS IN GRADES K -12.
- THIS TOOL WILL BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF HOW TEACHERS DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT THEIR LESSON PLANS, ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADES. THEY WILL USE IT TO POST UPDATES TO THEIR CLASS AND COMMUNICATE WITH PARENTS. PARENTS WILL BE ABLE TO SEE WHAT THEIR CHILDREN ARE WORKING ON.

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/schoology/schoology-for-families/>

WHAT ELSE TO EXPECT IN MS...

Concerns	Solutions
Lots of teachers' systems to learn	Check Schoology with your child at least weekly
More work/ due dates	Teach your child to use their planner
Heavy backpack	Locker- practice a combination dial lock with your child.
Less communication from teachers	Use Schoology to message teachers your concerns

W.E.B. SUMMER CAMP

DATE TBD

