

Margate Middle School

Home of the Spartans

Earnest Toliver, Principal

Leena Itty, Assistant Principal

Cara Coletti, Assistant Principal

Andrew Bronstein, Assistant Principal



500 Challenger Boulevard Margate, Florida 33063 ☉ Phone 754-322-3800 ☉ Winter 2011

“Together Everyone Achieves More”

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Margate Families:

January 2012 has come and gone and we are hard at work as we enter the testing season. At this time we are now all engaged in making sure that all of our students are prepared for the FCAT. We've disaggregated the data from BAT 2 and students have been placed in tutorials based on their area of weakness. We also have FCAT Saturday camps for all students starting on February 18th at 8:30am – 11:30am. The Florida Writes test will be during the last week of February for our eighth graders. The reading, math, and science FCAT will be taken during the third week of April. This is the time for you to ensure that your child is preparing for the FCAT as well as making sure they come to school and complete their homework assignments. One thing we highly suggest is that he or she reads for thirty to forty minutes every day. Please encourage your child to put forth the effort to succeed in all of their academic work. This year we are emphasizing the use of FCAT Explorer. If your child has access to a computer, they can log on and practice for the FCAT. We are currently running an

incentive program to encourage them to practice for the FCAT using FCAT Explorer.

Our Drama students are ready to perform their second show of the school year. The “Fiddler on the Roof” promises to be a performance you don't want to miss. Please come out and support their performance on February 23rd at 6:30pm.

February is also designated as Black History Month. We are proud to announce that we will have a Black History program for our parents, students, and the community on February 29th at 6:30pm. We encourage everyone to come out to this event as our students are working hard to create a great show.

Thank you for all of your support for our school. Please look at the monthly calendar below to see all the activities planned for this month. Have a great month of February.

Sincerely,
Earnest Toliver, Principal

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Date	Event	Time / Location
February	Black History Month	
February 1	Florida Future Educators of America	3:50 PM / Media Center
February 2	Early Release	Dismissal at 1:45 PM
	Papa John's Pizza Night	4:00 – 9:00 PM / Margate Store
	Decoding the FCAT - 8 th Grade Parent Night	6:30 – 8:30 PM
February 3	School-Wide BAT 2 Incentive Dance	
February 4	FCAT Camp 8th Grade Writing & Science	8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon
February 6	Builders Club	3:50 PM / Room 112
February 7	PTSA Yearbook Club	8:00 AM / Media Center
	First Priority Club	3:50 PM / Room 277
	Robotics Club	3:50 PM / Room 153
February 8	Issue Report Cards	
February 9	National Junior Honor Society	3:50 PM / Media Center
February 11	FCAT Camp 8th Grade Writing & Science	8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon
February 13	DFYIT Club	3:50 PM / Room 161
February 14	First Priority Club	3:50 PM / Room 277
February 15	PTSA / SAC Meeting	6:30 PM / Media Center
	Aspiring Writers Club	3:50 PM / Room 165
	Florida Future Educators of America	3:50 PM / Media Center
February 18	STEM USF Field Trip	6:00 AM – 10:00 PM
	FCAT Camp 6th, 7th, 8th, Grades Reading/Math/Science/Lab	9:00 AM – 11:55 AM
February 20	School Closed Holiday	No School
February 21	PTSA Yearbook Club	8:00-9:00 AM / Media Center
	First Priority Club	3:50 PM / Room 277
	Robotics Club	3:50 PM / Room 153
February 23	National Junior Honor Society	3:50 PM / Media Center
	Spring Drama Production	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
February 24	Interim Reports Issued	
February 25	FCAT Camp 6th, 7th, 8th, Grades Reading/Math/Science/Lab	9:00 AM – 11:55 AM

February 27	DFYIT Club Meeting	3:50 PM / Room 161
February 28 – March 1	FCAT Writing Assessment 8 th Grade	
	First Priority Club	3:50 PM / Room 277
February 29	Black History Program	6:30 PM / Margate Middle
	Ritter's School Night Out	5:00 – 8:00 PM / Margate Store
March 1	Papa John's Pizza Family Night	4:00 – 9:00 PM / Margate Store
March 1 - 2	Vision Screening 6 th Grade	9:30 AM – 3:00 PM
March 3	FCAT Camp 6 th , 7 th , 8 th , Grades Reading/Math/Science/Lab	9:00 AM – 11:55 AM
March 5 - 9	CELLA Testing	
March 5	Builders Club	3:50 PM / Room 112
March 6	PTSA Yearbook Club	
	First Priority Club	3:50 PM / Room 277
	Robotics Club	3:50 PM / Room 153
March 7	Florida Future Educators of America	3:50 PM / Media Center
March 8 - 9	6 th Grade Scoliosis Screening	
March 8	Megaskills Parent Training	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM / Media Center
	National Junior Honor Society	3:50 PM / Media Center
March 12 - 16	Spring Break	No School
March 19 – April 5	CELLA Testing	
March 20	PTSA Yearbook Club	8:00 AM – 9:00 AM / Media Center
	First Priority	3:50 PM / Room 277
	Robotics Club	3:50 PM / Room 153
March 21	PTSA/SAC Meeting	6:30 PM / Media Center
	Aspiring Writers Club	3:50 PM / Room 165
	Florida Future Educators of America	3:50 PM / Media Center
March 22	National Junior Honor Society	3:50 PM / Media Center
March 24	FCAT Camp 6 th , 7 th , 8 th , Grades Reading/Math/Science/Lab	9:00 AM – 11:55 AM
March 26	DFYIT Club	3:50 PM / Room 161
March 27	First Priority Club	3:50 PM / Room 277
March 29	Early Release	Dismissal at 1:45 PM
	PTSA Spring Dance	2:00 – 4:00 PM
	National Junior Honor Society	3:50 PM / Media Center
March 30	Employee Planning	No School for Students
	American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life"	5:00 PM – 10:00 PM / Monarch HS
March 31	FCAT Camp 6 th , 7 th , 8 th , Grades Reading/Math/Science/Lab	9:00 AM – 11:55 AM
April 16 - 20	FCAT Reading and Mathematics Grades 6, 7, & 8. (SSS) FCAT Science Grade 8 Sunshine State Standards mm	

TITLE I INFORMATION

Ms. Itty, 8th Grade Assistant Principal

Parent involvement is a critical ingredient in your child's success at Margate Middle. Please participate in all parental involvement efforts whenever possible. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mr. Bronstein at 754-322-3800. Also, listed below find parent involvement resources.

Broward School District

Title I Parent Resource Center

701 NW 31st Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
(754) 321-1425
www.broward.k12.fl.us/titleone/

North Parent Resource Center

Fischler School of Education
Nova Southeastern University
1750 NE 167th Street
Technology Building - 1st Floor
North Miami Beach, FL 33162
(866) 281-4678
www.knowyourchoices.org

The Florida Partnership For Family Involvement (FL PIRC)

University of South Florida
3500 E. Fletcher Avenue
Suite #301
Tampa, FL 33613
(813) 396-9923
www.partnershipcenter.usf.edu

Additional Title I and our School Improvement Plan information:

<http://www.margatemiddle.org> School Website
<http://www.margatemiddle.org/pages/files/SIP%20Plan%20MMS%202010.pdf> MMS School Improvement Plan

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Mr. Bronstein, 6th Grade Assistant Principal

MMS always prides itself on keeping a safe learning environment for all students. Within our classrooms, our teachers maintain a safe and orderly environment. Doors are always kept locked and remain free of loitering, running, or disruptions which is monitored by our schools Safety Team. In addition, our hallways and exterior are monitored 360° with our many cameras.

Our current focus to help ensure student safety, which relies on the students, and includes, but is not limited to:

- Having students maintain order when passing in the halls
- Using the agenda for all hall traffic
- Encouraging students to report any witnessed inappropriate behaviors
- Wearing ID badges while on campus
- Dressing appropriately and using best behavior at all times

Quick tip: Lock your bikes! Our bike compounds are locked, but it is always a good idea to lock your bikes up within the compound!

Besides monitoring our school throughout the day, Margate is proactive in its preventative approach to handling the many emergencies that could occur during various crisis situations. To date we have conducted 7 of our 11 required fire drills. Each drill was conducted with fidelity by Margate Middle's staff and was

completed below the required time of 3 minutes. We have successfully conducted 1 of 2 required tornado drills (the next is coming soon!!!!). Not only did we complete our required Lock Down Drill successfully, but we did it in conjunction with the Margate Police Department (MPD). The MPD was pleased with how well we conducted the drill. Finally, Margate Middle is currently preparing for an evacuation drill with our staff and will conduct it with district Professional Standards personnel.

MATRICULATION

Margate Middle held its annual 5th Grade Matriculation and Open House during the week of January 9th. Each day, we welcomed one of our local elementary schools: Margate Elementary came on Monday, Liberty Elementary came on Tuesday, Coconut Creek Elementary came on Wednesday, and Atlantic West came on Thursday respectively. Students and teachers were greeted at the door by administration, students, and staff.

Our guides toured them around the school grounds. Students were able to see electives, the media center, the newer 6th grade building and our main showcase, the STEM labs. In the STEM labs, students saw how Margate focuses on the newest technology and robotic engineering. After the tour, classes congregated in the gymnasium for a special presentation and showcase of the programs at Margate.

Thursday, January 12, 2012 was a repeat performance for incoming 5th grade families. It was a packed house in the gymnasium for all to see just how great Margate Middle is. The presentation included performances by Margate's band, chorus, drama club, and the Margate cheerleaders as well as student testimonials and presentations by various teachers, the STEM Coordinator, and administration. We have no doubt that all who attended were so pleased with what they saw. We are looking forward to embracing our new families of next year! If you know of a family interested in coming to check out what Margate has to offer, please contact the front office @ 754-322-3800.

FCAT NEWS

Ms. Itty, 8th Grade Assistant Principal

The reading, math, and science FCATS are around the corner. Teachers have been implementing "crunch time" instruction to ensure that students are adequately prepared and exposed to all benchmarks and strands assessed. The students have been working diligently to acquire the skills necessary to perform well on the assessments. Here is a list of general clues to help students prepare to take the FCAT.

- Learn how to answer each type of question.
- For multiple-choice questions, read each question carefully and think about the answer or solve the problem before you select your answer from the choices provided.

- Answer questions you are sure about first. If a question seems too hard, skip it and go back to that question later.
- There is no penalty for guessing; therefore, it is best to try to answer all questions, even if you are not sure of the correct answers.
- Think positively. Some questions may seem hard, but you may be able to figure out how to respond if you read the questions carefully a second time.
- Be sure to completely fill in the answer bubbles in your answer document. Do not make any stray marks around the answer spaces.
- Check to make sure the test question number matches the answer choice number on the answer document. Good luck to all of our Spartans.

SIXTH GRADE NEWS

Mr. Bronstein, 6th Grade Assistant Principal

Now that we are in January, and nearly half way through the year, it is clear that our 6th grade student body has acclimated quite well to Margate Middle. That nervous feeling of becoming a 6th grader is far in the past. Students have developed great friendships, have begun to determine what they are good at and are actively seeking membership to our sports and clubs. Our four teams (The Buccs, Owls, Seahawks, and Sharks), are deep in the trenches of academic achievement. The rigor provided by the teachers is preparing them for the most difficult time of the year, CRUNCH TIME! This is when we begin to prepare to "tackle the FCAT". Students are doing this in a number of ways and teachers are providing the vital information across curricula. As we move through "crunch time" we are asking for parental support. Students can help prepare for the big test at home by going on related websites such as FCAT explorer (fcatexplorer.com). We also have extra learning opportunities such as after school tutoring and before school tutoring on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:25-9am in the STEM computer labs. ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

Just like the beginning of the year, the middle of the year (now!) is just as important, if not more so! There is no lull in our year, this is the middle of the race, and time to buckle down and build momentum. GO SPAR TANS!!!

SEVENTH GRADE NEWS

Ms. Coletti, 7th Grade Assistant Principal

With the pressures of FCAT testing looming before your children, your teen will need your help in learning how to deal with stress. Here are seven tips that will help you, help your child:

- Be available to talk. If you're never there for your teen, you won't be able to help him. Take some time out of your week for some one-on-one time with him. Make this part of your routine so that your teenager will know that he can count on you being there.
- Encourage healthy escapes from the daily grind of school. Show your teenager the benefits of taking the dog out for a jog, hiking a trail, or just going out for a walk. Physical activity is known to relieve stress. Creativity will also help to relieve stress. Buy your teenager a journal or diary or encourage another creative hobby.
- Laughter can get rid of stress just as much as exercise and is another healthy escape. Make comic or humorous books available in your home. Allow get-togethers with friends. Rent movies with a comedy theme. You can also teach your teen how to laugh, using humor to take the stress away from normal human mistakes that can happen.
- Build your teenager's confidence and self-esteem by remembering to praise your child when he does something good. Make this a habit by finding something your teenager did right ~ everyday. It's not that they aren't doing good

things all the time; it's just that we, as parents, sometimes need to take the time to notice that they are doing good things. With the basic foundation of confidence and self-esteem that you provide, your teenager will be better able to handle changes and stress.

- Teach your teenager how to keep things in perspective. This is an important part of relieving stress. Taking a situation and looking at it from different points of view and seeing how it relates in the whole scheme of life is a skill your teenager will need to learn. He will be able to reduce his stress load if he is able to 'let go' of the little stress triggers we encounter in our lives.
- Show your teenager how to focus on the positive aspects of a situation. Have him try and list the benefits and opportunities created, rather than the problems. Even the most unpleasant experiences can lead to positive growth and outcomes.
- Be wary of negative roadblocks. Often teenagers who do not learn how to deal with stress appropriately turn to drugs and alcohol. Talk to your teen often about these roadblocks.

Want to do BETTER on the FCAT this year?



Wednesdays and Thursdays
8:25am to 9:10am
 WIN a FREE ice cream!
 WIN FREE chips!
 WIN a FREE MP3 Player!

WIN other incentives and prizes...oh, and GET SMARTER!!!
The MORE you come, the better your chances of improving and winning!!! First Come, First Serve!!!
You know the saying... "Early Spartan wins the prize!"

EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

Ms. Itty, 8th Grade Assistant Principal

Eighth grade students and teachers have been working diligently to prepare for the FCAT writing test on February 28, 2012. FCAT Writing is an assessment that instructs students to write in response to an assigned prompt. Grade 8 students respond to a prompt that asks them to convince (persuasive writing) or to explain (expository writing). Trained readers evaluate a student's response for its overall quality and assign each paper a score from 1 to 6 based on a consideration of the following elements: **focus, organization, support, and conventions**. A paper receives a higher score on this scale if it maintains a clear focus; provides an effective organizational structure; includes fully developed supporting details; and indicates knowledge of the basic conventions of punctuation, capitalization, usage, and spelling, and uses a variety of sentence structures to present ideas. Students should use the planning sheet to list and organize their ideas for writing; plan to include examples and details in your response and budget the time they spend planning. The writing on the planning sheet will **not** be scored. Students have 45

minutes to read, plan, and write their response. Only the writing on the lines provided in the answer book will be scored. I am confident that eighth grade students will shine on the exam and make Margate Middle proud. Good luck to our students!

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Miranda, Guidance Director

Bilingual Parent Institute for parents of students who speak another language in 6th through 12th grade. Training is scheduled for Saturday, February 25, 2012, at the Signature Grand. For further information contact Yvette Fernandez at 754-321-2951 or www.broward.k12.fl.us/esol.

Dates to Remember:

National School Counselor Week - February 6-10, 2012

Straight "A" Luncheon - February 17, 2012

FCAT Writing for 8th Grade is scheduled for February 28, 2012

The ESOL Department of Broward County Public Schools has registered you to use Parents K-12, a new, searchable online database for K-12 parents of English Language Learners in the ESOL Program. As part of Parents K-12's online offerings, you will be able to:

- search grade-level academic activities in Math, Science, Social Studies/History, Reading/Language Arts.
- search general academic resources like "Preparing for the Florida Comprehensive
- Assessment Test (FCAT)" or "Getting Ready for Grade (your student's grade) Reading".
- read brief overviews of academic topics that students will be learning about in the classroom.
- print fun, academic activities to do with your child at home.

- give your child concrete strategies for doing better on tests, completing homework, doing research, and writing reports.

- listen to resources in English and Spanish.

This valuable database of grade-level-specific resources is available free to parents and students at:

<http://portal.parentsk12.com/broward>

Username: Your student's 10 digit student number

Password: broward

For more information or questions please contact:

Yvette Fernandez or Dunia Gil at 754-321-2950 or via email@

Yvette.fernandez@browardschools.com or

Dunia.Gil@browardschools.com

"Moving Towards Higher Education"

What: The ESOL Department is hosting a FREE full-day program to help bilingual parents of students in grades 6 - 12 prepare their child for a successful high school and college education. (Workshops will be held in Spanish and English with concurrent translations in Haitian Creole and Portuguese).

The workshops include the following topics:

- Preparing Your Student for College/University/Technical Careers
- College Entrance Requirements/Exams
- Selecting and Paying for College
- Barriers to Success: Peer Pressure and New Social Media
- Internet Resources

When: Saturday, FEBRUARY 25, 2012, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

(Lunch will be served and there will be lots of prizes.)

Where: The Signature Grand

6900 State Road 84, Davie, FL 33317, 954 424-4000

Register: Space is limited!!! Deadline to register is FEBRUARY 17,

2012. Register by calling Yvette Fernandez 754-321-2951 or via

email at Yvette.fernandez@browardschools.com.

Please remember that students CANNOT attend.

Straight "A" Students First Quarter

<u>6th Grade</u> Yohali Alvarado Lauren Arnold Austin Artis Szilard Beres Dylan Bowman Brayanna Chin Robinson Sabrina Dure Kenny Etienne Alexandra Giang Taylor Gottshall Sarah Hill Kyle Horodecki Malissa Howard Shana Kancel Suaad Khan Brianna Kunder Jean Laborde Demara Lynch Timothy Martin Joshua Morgan Garfield Murphy Bervelyn Nolasco Carlos Ojeda-Lopez Fabia Philogene	<u>6th Grade</u> Redjanie Romain Isabela Santos Abigail Simpson-Givens Elissa Tricoche <u>7th Grade</u> Sierra Bilinski Alejandra Carde Tatyana Mack <u>8th Grade</u> Joylan Alberto Tasnia Arshee Alyssa Barrios Elizabeth Bell Son Bui Jessica Curbelo Han Do Tran Samantha Lalloo My-Diem Le Kya Morris Darwins Olcima Cierra Stafford Courtney Steward Alexandra Swab
--	---

Straight "A" Students Second Quarter

<u>6th Grade</u> Yohali Alvarado Austin Artis Szilard Beres Kenny Etienne Alexandra Giang Makelly Gubiani Kyle Horodecki Shana Kancel Suaad Khan Demara Lynch Nadiya Manning Thanha Rahman Abigail Simpson-Givens Shanitta Young	<u>7th Grade</u> Joseph Benoit Sierra Bilinski Marquisha Clerjuste Isaiah Estrella Deanna McClary Lucas Neves Julia Roberson <u>8th Grade</u> Luvie Antoine Tasnia Arshee Richardo Brunet Jessica Curbelo Han DoTran Victoria Goodson My-Diem Le Gianna Manzo Jorge Ortiz Didier Paultre
---	--

City of Margate Student of the Month

Every month, the City of Margate recognizes students who have been selected as "Student of the Month" within their schools at the City Commission Meeting.

City of Margate - September's Student of the Month

The Owls team would like to nominate Redjanie Romain for student of the month. Redjanie is an excellent student who always puts forth her best effort. This is apparent in her excellent grades. Redjanie sets a great example for her classmates. Redjanie is respectful to her teachers and always actively involved in class. Redjanie plans to get involved with the basketball team at school. We are proud to have Redjanie on the Owls team!

City of Margate - October's Student of the Month

The Panthers Team is proud to nominate Andenique Prentice as October's student of the month. Andenique is a polite, responsible, hardworking young lady who excels in Math and Language Arts. Her

infectious smile brightens both teachers and students morning moods. As a leader, Andenique has the ability to bring out the best in others.

City of Margate - November's Student of the Month

Ashley Gabriel is an exemplary student. She earned a 3.8 GPA and is taking a high school level course. She is a great leader amongst her peers. Ashley is always the first to volunteer to lend a helping hand to her friends and teachers. We are proud to have Ashley on our team. She truly embodies the character traits of the "Student of the Month."

City of Margate - January's Student of the Month

The Seahawks would like to nominate Raven Ruggs as Student of the Month. She displays exemplary work ethic. She is very reliable. She is a leader to her peers. She remains courteous and kind no matter what the circumstance. Raven can be counted on to be helpful. She is a consistently positive asset to the learning environment. We are proud to have her as our student.

October Margate Middle Team Students of the Month:

<u>6th Grade</u> Owls - Jean LaBorde Seahawks - Yazzera Cruz Sharks - Abigail Jimenez Bucs - Brutbet Canedy	<u>7th Grade</u> Knights - Lucas Neves Osprey - Tracy Joseph Hurricanes - Isaiel Aguilar Panthers - Andenique Prentice <u>8th Grade</u> Rattlers - Dillon Crawford Gators - Curtis Jean Seminoles - Courtney Stewart
--	--

November Margate Middle Team Students of the Month:

<u>6th Grade</u> Owls - Victoria Sorroza Seahawks - Harry Mussotte Sharks - Tyler Basenback Bucs - Karina Nunez	<u>7th Grade</u> Knights - Rebecca Jean Baptiste Osprey - Shanitta Young Hurricanes - Steven Komec Panthers - Le'Jefferia Goodwin <u>8th Grade</u> Rattlers - Wildley Pierre Gators - Ashley Gabriel Seminoles - Anthony Le
--	---

January Margate Middle Team Students of the Month:

<u>6th Grade</u> Owls - Austin Artis Seahawks - Raven Ruggs Sharks - Arlande Fene Bucs - Alexis Raymond	<u>7th Grade</u> Knights - Sergio Pacheco Osprey - Karen Feliciano Rivera Hurricanes - Tery Saint Jean Panthers - Victoria Woodson <u>8th Grade</u> Rattlers - Vanessa Toussaint Gators - Gabrielle Lewis Seminoles - Judley Francois
--	---

Kids of Character

The Sun-Sentinel Newspaper's "Kids of Character Program" honors students who go above and beyond while exhibiting specific character traits. These traits include cooperation, responsibility, citizenship, kindness, respect, honesty, self control and tolerance. Each month throughout the year, a different trait is highlighted that promotes character through education. Congratulations to the following students for being selected Kids of Character for the trait of honesty:

<i>Owls - Janae Walters</i> <i>Sharks - Abigail Jimenez</i> <i>Hurricanes - Davud Swab</i>	<i>Knights - Brandan Thorpe</i> <i>Seminoles - Mychaela Ojeda</i> <i>Gators - Curtis Jean</i>
--	---

Panthers – Kristen Huynh
Bucs – Karina Nunez
Seahawks – C'Era Marrero

Rattlers – Jessica Bradley
Ospreys – Tracy Joseph

Congratulations to the following students for being selected Kids of Character for the trait of respect:

Owls – Louis Alerandre
Sharks – Wedson Alerandre
Hurricanes – Julia Roberson
Panthers – Victoria Woodson
Bucs – Alexis Raymond
Seahawks – Stephanie Head

Knights – Nostacha Henry
Seminoles – Alyssa Barrios
Gators – Joshua Canales
Rattlers – Vanessa Toussaint
Ospreys – Shanitta Young

Congratulations to the following students for being selected Kids of Character for the trait of cooperation:

Owls – Malissa Howard
Sharks – Kelvin Buendia
Hurricanes – Clifford Paul
Panthers – Nakita Young
Seahawks – Dylaisha Rivera

Knights – Susan Suban
Seminoles – Cheryl Elias
Gators – Israel Rutledge
Rattlers – Eric Miller
Ospreys – Jephthe Dorelien

City of Margate honors Teacher of the Month

September's Teacher of the Month

Ms. Ventura has helped me the most with my transition from elementary to middle school. She was the one that took the most time to help me with my assignments and homework. I love being in her class and learning science.

October's Teacher of the Month

I chose Ms. Brown because she is nice, fun, kind and I feel she is a great teacher. She has a wonderful teaching method, and she makes her teaching lessons fun. Everything we do in her class doesn't feel like work, I feel very excited to see her and go to her class.

November's Teacher of the Month

Ms. Williams has inspired me to become a great writer. Her enthusiasm has motivated me to excel when I just want to give up. Ms. Williams is nice, funny and explains everything clearly so I can understand. I'm glad to have her as my teacher.

January's Teacher of the Month

Ms. Connelly is awesome! She helps me understand history better by making her lessons fun. I always know that she will listen to me and answer any questions I have. Thank you Ms. Connelly for making history so much fun.

ESE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Montiel, ESE Specialist

All parents/guardians of children with disabilities are asked to participate in the Department of Education ESE Survey.

To access go to: <http://www.ESEsurvey.com>. Parents will not be required to enter any confidential information, however demographic questions must be completed to gain access to the survey Parents are required to complete the following fields: District, School, Student's Grade, and Date of Birth. The survey is available on-line in English and Spanish.

If you do not have internet access you can contact Mrs. Montiel, ESE Specialist at 754-322-3812 to arrange a time to complete the survey at Margate Middle.

2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR
January - June Issue No. 2

Parent Education Workshops for Families of Students with Disabilities

The ESE Department in collaboration with FDLRS Parent Services offers a variety of parent workshops and information for parents of students with disabilities:

- behavior
- transition
- learning
- evaluation
- academics
- services

For more information: 754-321-2211 FDLRS Parent Services
<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/studentsupport/ese/html/WORKSHOP.htm>

Workshops are held in the morning, evenings and weekends.
Target audience for workshops - parents of children ages birth to 22 years

<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/studentsupport/ese/html/WORKSHOP.htm>

ESE Advisory Council <http://www.browardeseadvisory.com/>

Call ESE Advisory Hotline at 754-321-2252

Sign up for ESE e-News Announcements

Visit: <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/studentsupport/ese/enews.asp>

SPELLING BEE

Ms. Thomas, Coordinator

Yasin Hubbard, an eighth-grader on Margate Middle School's Seminoles academic team, won first place in the January 19 school-wide spelling bee.

The friendly "word-war" in the school's media center drew more than 30 participants at the Title-I institution, including several non-native English speakers. Part of several school-based spelling bees held throughout Broward County since December, the annual event helped determine local winners for district involvement in the upcoming Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Hubbard garnered victory by correctly spelling the term barracks, referring to a "set of buildings used especially for lodging soldiers stationed at a military post." Britney Canedy of the Buccaneers academic team placed second.

READ ALL ABOUT IT

..... A Message From The Reading Coach, Ms. McNally

The month of February has Spartans "Reading Their Heart Out!"

Kudos to those students that met their Accelerated Reader goals for the second quarter. They were invited to attend an ice-cream social, which was held on January 27th. In addition to the ice-cream social, the two students earning the top points on each team will have the pleasure of attending a Frappacino Frenzy. Starbucks comes to our campus with everything in hand needed for our students to make and enjoy an icy frappacino. Next time you are at the Margate Starbucks, please take the time to thank them for their involvement in promoting literacy at Margate Middle. This school year to date, our students have read 1,037 books! It's no wonder that we are so proud of our students!

We are working diligently implementing test taking tips and strategies to help prepare our students for the high stakes, challenging, statewide assessment test, the FCAT. The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test was designed to measure the students' achievement of the Sunshine State Standards. It represents the kinds of tasks and activities that parents and teachers expect as part of good instruction. The Reading test contains passages taken from textbooks, novels, magazines, newspapers, editorials, biographies, and other publications that students are expected to read at their grade level. The students

are required to use high level thinking to complete questions, which go beyond simple recall of facts.

Eighth grade parents are invited to attend FCAT Parent Night on February 2nd from 6:30-8:00 PM. Please join us for an informative look "Inside the 8th Grade FCAT". You will leave with everything you need to know to ensure that your child has a positive testing experience on the Reading, Writing, Science, and Mathematics FCAT Exam.

At Margate Middle we like to say that "Practice Makes Progress". Please require that your child practice reading every night for a minimum of twenty minutes. Also continue to encourage your child to use FCAT Explorer. This free web site is designed to help students practice reading, science and math skills outlined in the Sunshine State Standards.

SCIENCE FAIR

Ms. Ventura, Coordinator

The Science Department would like to congratulate the winners of the 2012 Science Fair. The winners are:

6th Grade

1st Place- Demara Lynch

2nd Place- Emily Turner & Samantha Schwartz

3rd Place- Kyle Horodecki

7th Grade

1st Place- Sierra Bilinski

2nd Place- Alejandra Carde

3rd Place- Julia Roberson

8th Grade

1st Place- Tasnia Arshee

2nd Place- Cierra Stafford

3rd Place- Calvin Chambliss

Congratulations to all of our winners and all who participated!

STEM MAGNET PROGRAM

Ms. Ragin, Coordinator

Great things are happening with STEM at Margate Middle School. Students have completed their first semester of their STEM electives, and we look forward to welcoming a new group of students into STEM. Over the semester students completed hands on projects consisting of rocket building, multimedia presentations, structure building and testing, CO2 race car construction, virtual knee and hip replacements, and much more. Students had the chance to attend free trips to The Museum of Discovery and Science, Lego Land, The South Florida Science Museum, and The National College Fair.

This semester students will do some of the same projects, but some trips will be added. In addition to the previously mentioned trips, students will go to the University of South Florida, Florida Atlantic

University, Florida International University, Broward Traffic Control Center, and a Margate movie theatre.

We are well into STEM competition season! On January 7th a group of STEM students represented Margate Middle at the Florida Leago League Robotics Competition and took home the 1st place trophy in robot design. Upcoming competitions include MathCounts on February 4th and FAU's Engineers Week on February 21st.

We are SySTEMatically taking over!

MATH-A-THON

Students at Margate Middle School can take satisfaction in the fact that their efforts will help in the battle against cancer.

Margate students participated in the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Math-A-Thon program and raised \$2,365 to help children battling cancer and other threatening diseases. One team at the school alone, the seventh grade Hurricanes, raised \$1,062. We are so proud of our students for embracing Math-A-Thon and raising critical funds for St. Jude," said Lesley Schell and Ruthann Rubright, coordinators of the event. <http://www.margatenews.net/margatenews/news/articles/article948.asp>

DRAMA CLUB

Ms. Rothman, Sponsor

The Margate Middle School Drama Club, partnering with the MMS Chorus, is proud to present the classic Broadway musical, Fiddler on the Roof. Poor dairyman Tevye struggles to keep his cultural 'Traditions' alive as he manages the lives and loves of his five daughters as well as the political undercurrents leading to the Russian Revolution. Please join us on Thursday, February 23rd at 6:30 in the cafeteria. Tickets will be sold for \$3.

RITTERS

School night out at Ritter's in Margate February 29, 2012 from 5:00 - 8:00 PM. Come see your teachers serving at Ritters. 20% of all sales during this event will be donated to our school. The address is 6700 West Atlantic Boulevard, ½ mile West of 441. Phone: 954 975 7300 Daily Flavor Line: 954 971 8000

SUPERINTENDENT'S LISTENING TOUR

Date change - February 9, 2012 - Hollywood Hills High School
The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/foodservice/>