



SWEETWATER  
BRANCH  
ACADEMY  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### IMPORTANT DATES:

- Sep 14: Picture Day
- Sep 14: Grandparents Pizza Night
- Sep 18: Good Conduct Dress Down Day

[www.swbacademy.org](http://www.swbacademy.org)

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# Sweetwater News

Volume 2, Issue 3

Friday, September 11, 2009

## Principal's Corner

### Grandparents Pizza Night

SWBA will celebrate National Grandparent's Day in cafeteria on Monday, September 14, 2009 @5:30-7 pm. All of our grandparents, parents and students are welcome to join this celebration.

### Student Picture Day

Student picture day will take place on Monday, September 14, 2009. Students should wear their red SWBA shirts on picture day. All students will have their picture taken for student ID purposes. Please contact Mrs. Schutt at [vschutt@swbacademy.org](mailto:vschutt@swbacademy.org) or Ext. 110 should you have any questions.

### Parents' Support Needed for Academic Teams:

Science and Math Olympiad team students will start their weekend studies this Saturday from 10:30am to 1:30 pm, under the supervision of their science and math teachers Mr. Tunc and Mr. Uncu. We need more support from the parents as volunteer coaches. Please contact Dr. Baslanti if you are interested in being an academic coach for any of our academic teams. We also accept donations.

### After School Clubs/Activities Begin

After-school activities started on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. We are pleased to see a lot of participants in the various clubs. If you have any questions about after-school activities, please contact Dr. Baslanti [ubaslanti@swbacademy.org](mailto:ubaslanti@swbacademy.org) or 352-375-8838 extension 112. After school activities/clubs end at 4:40pm. Please pick up your student by 4:40 pm.

### Good Conduct Dress Down Day –Friday, September 18, 2009

### Home Visits

Experience and research from all over the United States show that the interaction with the student's family at their home is a very effective way to contribute to students' academic and behavioral progress. SWBA Teachers visited 3 homes so far. Our target is to visit all of our students this year.

Please contact Dr. Baslanti at [ubaslanti@swbacademy.org](mailto:ubaslanti@swbacademy.org) if you wish to make home visit arrangements with your student's teachers. Depending on our teacher's availability, at least two teachers will visit our students and parents at their homes.

## Principal's Corner (Continued)

**Free Program Offers no-shot flu Immunizations to Students-** Please return the consent form to school by September 24 if you want your child to get immunized. Please read below for more information about the program.

This year Alachua County parents can protect their children from the flu and avoid missed time at school and at work. It's FREE and EASY.



All kindergarten through 8th-grade students in Alachua County public and private schools are being offered the FluMist nasal spray, which is a safe and effective way of preventing the flu. While this vaccine is designed to protect against 'normal' seasonal flu, experts say that it may also help protect against the H1N1 (swine) flu. The spray will be given at school this fall, which means no trips to a doctor's office.

FluMist is not a shot! It's a gentle mist delivered into the nose, and naturally kids prefer it to shots.

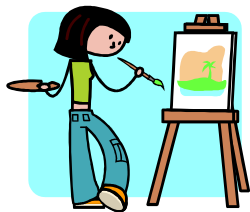
FluMist was given to many Alachua County students in 2006 and helped cut down on absences due to flu. More than 90% of the parents who took advantage of it said they would do it again. To get your child immunized, just read the information sheet available on this site, then and fill out the consent form, which is also provided. (A hard copy will also be sent home with all elementary and middle school students during the first week of school.) Then return the form to school by September 24. Students can give the form to their teacher, but please remind them to do so—we don't want them trapped in backpacks!

On this site you'll find additional information about the local FluMist immunization program, including a fact sheet and a news release with a list of the community partners involved in the program. More information is also available on the Alachua County Health Department website at [www.doh.state.fl.us/chdAlachua](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdAlachua). You can also call the Health Department at (352) 334-7950.

We encourage you to take advantage of this SAFE, FREE and EASY program to protect your child from the flu. That way your student can stay in school and you won't miss work. If enough children are immunized, it could protect the entire community—including you and your family.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Fethi Goktepe, Principal



Picture Day is September 14th.

## First Lego League Grant

Congratulations! Sweetwater Branch Academy Lego League Team have received a grant from Florida Lego League for team registration and field setup kit which normally cost \$299. However, we still need to purchase the robot kit which costs about \$420. We expect all students in the team to contribute financially so that we can get our robot kit as soon as possible. Thanks  
Mr. Gurcan



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## The Fastest Typer Competition

Our competition was held on Wednesday. The top three winners are Brandon Mathews, Daniel El Basha, and Natanya Cruz. Thanks to all participants.

Mr. Gurcan



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## Future City Academic Team

We are planning to create a new academic team called Future City . The meetings for this team will be held on Tuesdays in room 110. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Baslanti. For more information about this new team check out [www.futurecity.org](http://www.futurecity.org) or contact to Mr. Gurcan.



## PVO Corner

PVO MEETING: September 15, 2009, Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Media Center

Parents we need your participation in the Parent Volunteer Organization to make this year successful.

Media Center: Volunteers are updating the student roster and will be opening the media center soon. If you have any books you would like to donate to the library please send them in with your child or drop them off at the front desk. We take almost anything because we can then trade the books at some of the local bookstores for age appropriate books. If we can't use the books at all we will donate them to other schools.

BOX TOPS: If you have any BOX TOPS please send them in to your child's homeroom teacher in a baggy with your child's name on the front. To find out what products participate in the box tops program go to [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com). You can also print discount coupons from the site and you can shop online and get credits for the school.

Volunteers: Thank you for all the help in the media center, cafeteria and office. Thanks for the many donations of books for the library, school supplies and uniforms.

Entertainment Book: We have received our supply of Entertainment books, they are \$30 a piece and we will be getting this fundraiser started soon.

Car Pool: If you want to car pool please contact Lisa Clark at the school number. We are looking for anyone living in the High Springs and Alachua areas.

Donations: We will keep a list of things the teachers would like to have to make their job easier. I know we have many parents who can't be here to volunteer but still want to help out and this is a great way to help.

School needs:

- Tissues and Sanitizer gels
- Soccer Balls and Soccer goals
- Flag Football flags, Footballs
- Volleyballs
- Books
- Old Televisions 25" or larger
- Old DVD players
- Memory sticks
- Uniforms

## From Front Office

Parents, please make sure that your child either has money in their lunch account or brings a lunch. We are having an abundance of students that have no money in their account, we have made every effort to inform you of the procedures including going as far as paying for student's lunches. We do not have the funds for this and will no longer be able to provide breakfast or lunches to those students who do not have lunch money. Please provide your child breakfast and lunch either by providing money or bringing a lunch. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

We still have some last year's yearbooks for sale, if you would like to purchase one please see Ms. Vickie.

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## Math Team Meeting

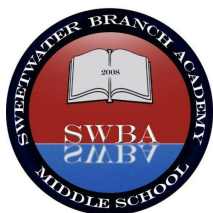
Math team will be meeting on Saturdays between 10:30 and 1:30 starting this week. We expect to see our team members at the school this Saturday (09.11.2009). We will be practicing, learning new strategies, eating pizza, and having good time together.

SWEETWATER  
BRANCH ACADEMY

1000 NE 16TH AVE.  
BUILDING C  
GAINESVILLE, FL  
32601 |  
PHONE: (352) 375-8838 |  
FAX: (888) 241-5125



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## Piecing it Together with Ms. Ratledge

Our first project due date is coming up fast! Language Art's students, make sure you are working on your Novel Project, due September 24<sup>th</sup>!



## Journalism Club

If you are a member of the journalism staff, please bring paper and writing utensils to club to help you with research and writing assignments.

## Spell it Out with the Spelling Bee Club

If you are a member of the spelling bee club, please bring a composition notebook with you to this club. We will be using these notebooks for various activities within the club.



## From Ms. Ratledge

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am Ms. Ratledge, the Language Arts/Reading teacher at SWBA. I would love to be able to communicate easily and as frequently as time allows and email will certainly help that! I recently sent out an email to the parents who filled out the email form and returned it to our school. For those of you, who wish to communicate via email, please email me at this address: [aratledge@swbacademy.org](mailto:aratledge@swbacademy.org). I will get back to you as quickly as I can. I look forward to hearing from all of you, as well as helping make your child's school year at SWBA be a successful one.