



# The Fisher Flyer

Official Newsletter of Fisher Island Day School

November 1, 2018

Dear Students, Parents, Faculty, & Staff,

Following are this week's [FIDS](#) updates:

**Calendar at a Glance.** There is much going on at FIDS between now and the New Year. Stay tuned!

- |                       |  |                       |                            |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| • Fri., Nov. 2, 2018  | Report Cards Issued                      | • Tue., Nov. 20, 2018 | Grandparent's Day          |
| • Sat., Nov. 3, 2018  | Soccer Team Games                        | • Nov. 21-25, 2018    | Thanksgiving Recess        |
| • Nov. 7-8, 2018      | Kids Care Food Drive                     | • Sun., Dec. 2, 2018  | <a href="#">Jingle Run</a> |
| • Fri., Nov. 16, 2018 | PA Mtg.—Tennis Center                    | • Fri., Dec. 21, 2018 | Holiday Show               |
| • Nov. 16-20, 2018    | <a href="#">Books &amp; Books</a> © Fair |                       |                            |

**Game Time.** Please come out to show your support of FIDS's Sharks Soccer at the following games:

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • FIDS Sharks v. Key Point Academy | • <a href="#">Brickell Soccer Rooftop</a> |
| • Saturday, November 3, 2018       | 444 Brickell Avenue                       |
| ○ 10:00 a.m. – Little Soccer       | Miami, FL 33131                           |
| ○ 11:00 a.m. – Big Soccer          |   |



**FIDS Kids Care Food Drive.** Feel the joy of giving with your family this holiday season! The annual FIDS Kids Care Food Drive will take place for **only two days: Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, through Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**. The Food Drive will help support the charitable work of Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church in Miami Beach. We are unable to accept perishable foodstuffs or donations of money as part of the food drive. We are requesting that each family stock a canvas bag containing the following specific food items. **NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE!!!**

- |                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Canned Cranberry Sauce  | • Canned Chicken               |
| • Instant Mashed Potatoes | • Applesauce                   |
| • Rice                    | • Cereal                       |
| • Canned Vegetables       | • Pasta and Canned Pasta Sauce |
| • Marshmallows            | • Pie crust and Pie Filling    |

In addition, we ask that each student decorate a shoebox, filled with the following items for the homeless:

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| • Pair of New Socks                                | • Basic Toiletries                 |
| • Soft Snacks, e.g., Applesauce, Pudding, and Bars | • Handwritten Note from your Child |
| • Package of Crackers                              |                                    |

**FIDS Gazette.** Fifth graders enrolled in Ms. Wolgast's publishing course are proud to announce FIDS's first student newsletter, the *FIDS Gazette*. A copy of the October 2018 edition is appended to this newsletter. This and past *Gazettes* may be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Date/Time/  
Location Change

**Parent Association Meeting.** The November Parent Association (PA) Meeting will be held as follows:

- **Date:** Friday, November 16, 2018
- **Time:** 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
- **Place:** Fisher Island Tennis Center
- Guest Speaker: Ms. Caiti Waks, Co-Founder/Board Director, [Debris Free Oceans](#)  
Ms. Waks will present information about the impact of plastics on our marine life, public health, and Miami's economy, as well as a general overview of the history of plastics and plastics chemistry. She will conclude with ideas of how to reduce individual plastic consumption.

Please plan on attending to support the valuable efforts of our PA, led by Co-Chairs, Ms. Tamarra Hay (Jesse & Summer) and Ms. Yvette Triana (Shae). Please be reminded that membership in our PA is a benefit you receive by virtue of having your child enrolled at FIDS. Both moms and dads are invited to attend! The agenda will focus on planning for the Gala and Jingle Run. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

**STEM Home Challenge.** This year, we are limiting STEM Home Challenges to one for the entire year (excluding the STEM Fair project in April 2019). The 2018-2019 FIDS STEM Home Challenge poses the question:

**Can you design and build something that can carry a Ping-Pong ball from the top of a zip line string to the bottom in four seconds or less?**

Here's how to participate:

- Participation is voluntary.
- Participating families may elect to submit a separate challenge per child or complete one "family" project. \*
- Design something that can carry a ping-pong on a zip line. You are free to choose your materials, as long as you build it yourself! Cardboard, cups, straws, tape, and skewers might be a good start.
- Projects must be student-inspired/made creations; do not use zip line construction kits!
- Projects must be STEM-related and incorporate one or more of the 4 STEM pillars: Science, Technology, Engineering, and/or Mathematics. While you may want to give your design an artistic twist, **THIS IS NOT AN ARTS AND CRAFTS PROJECT!** Your zip line must be fully functioning!
- **Projects are due to your child's teacher by Tuesday, January 15, 2019.** Projects submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.
- Selected projects, **based on merit**, will be recognized at Morning Meeting on Friday, January 18, 2019.
- The selection of projects to be shared will be based on a combination of FIDS' STEM Team assessment of the projects, the students' presentation of the project, and/or additional follow-up questions by staff adjudicators.
- Mrs. Rosa, our STEM Coordinator, is available to support students who may need guidance on getting started.
- Consult with your child's teacher for any specific class requirements.
- Early Learning, Pre-Kindergarten, and Jr. Kindergarten will complete the challenge as a class project.
- Use this challenge to be creative, have fun, and learn!



\* Family projects will be shared once in one child's classroom, with all contributors included in the presentation.



**Operation Gratitude.** Once again this season, FIDS will be supporting [Operation Gratitude](#) through the collection of Halloween candy, which will be sent to U.S. military troops. In addition to supporting those who sacrifice their lives for us, participation in Operation Gratitude helps instill in children a sense of give-back and charity. Further, your donations to this cause will mitigate the temptation to indulge in unsavory nutritional practices at home. It's a win-win! FIDS will provide an Operation Gratitude collection box in the school's foyer, November 1 – 2, 2018. Only donations of non-perishable, wrapped candy will be accepted during this period.



**Conclusion of Daylight Saving Time.** Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 4, 2018, at 2:00 a.m., at which time you will set your clocks back 1 hour. This minor adjustment can have a significant impact, especially for very young children. Click here for a [link](#) to *5 tips for surviving the end of daylight saving time with kids*.

**Active Hours.** [Active Hours](#) for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter will offer the same choices available during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, along with the following addition: Art Club with Ms. Jacqueline Roch on Thursdays for Grades 3-7. Please click [here](#) to access course listings and registration information. **Note: payments must be received by Friday, January 9, 2018 in order to avoid a per-class late fee penalty of \$50.**

**Grandparents' Day.** This year, Grandparents' Day is on **Tuesday, November 20, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** We look forward to this special day, which includes student performances, classroom visits, the [Books & Books](#)® Book Fair, and a Thanksgiving lunch with all the trimmings. We are happy to include our students' grandparents as part of our Fisher Island Day School family.

**Jingle Run.** Pull out your running shoes! Fisher Island Day School's Parent Association is hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Jingle Run" 5K race on Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. The 5K race and related events will provide fun for the entire family. In addition to offering interested participants a full-fledged, timed 5K race, families can enjoy brunch bites, bounce houses, face-painting, kids' crafts, and "Mini Dashes" for the children. Look for a flyer with details on see the attached flyer.

**School Portraits.** The photographer from BluMango how to register online. In the interim, save the date to run with Santa! Click [here](#) to purchase tickets or Studios informed me that some of the initial images had not uploaded correctly to their website. This has since been corrected. You may want to revisit their site—using the password you were previously provided—to look at the recent uploads. Visit [www.blumangostudios.com](http://www.blumangostudios.com) or click [here](#). Please be reminded that there is a 10% discount on all orders placed by November 9, 2018.

**South Florida Heads-of-School Dinner.** On Monday, October 29, 2018, I joined a small gathering of South Florida independent-school leaders for dinner at the Biltmore. In addition to me, the following individuals were in attendance:

- Ms. Lillian Issa, Head of School, St. Thomas Episcopal School;
- Mr. Olen Kalkus, Head of School, Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart
- Ms. Silvia Larrauri, Head of School, St. Stephen's Episcopal School;
- Mr. James McGhee, Co-Head of School, Alexander Montessori
- Ms. Deborah Starr, Head of School, Beth Am Day School

The meeting provided the opportunity for leaders from South Florida's premier independent schools to network, share best practices, and learn of new resources. The common discussion topics at this gathering were capital campaign fundraising and construction projects.

Thank you for your support in making every week at FIDS a wonderful learning experience for our children. Your partnership is greatly appreciated.

Best regards,



[Michael Bell](#)

Head of School

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