



November 29, 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!

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| • Friday, November 30, 2018 | School Spirit Day—Wear your Sharks tee-shirts |
| • Wednesday, December 5, 2018 | 2 nd Quarter Interims Sent Home |
| • Friday, December 21, 2018 | Holiday Show, 11:00 a.m. Students will be dismissed from Vanderbilt Theater immediately after the holiday show. More details to follow. |
| • Monday, January 7, 2018 | School resumes for 2019 |

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 own materials, as long as you build it yourself! Cardboard, cups, straws, tape, and skewers might be a good start.
- Projects must be student-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's STEM Team assessment of the projects, the student's 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.*



FIDS "Sharks" Tee-Shirts. Students and faculty will get to show their FIDS pride on *School Spirit Day* tomorrow, **Friday, November 30, 2018**. On *School Spirit Day*, students and faculty may wear their FIDS Sharks tee-shirts in lieu of their regular uniform tops. **Please plan on layering clothing due to the weather.** All other school uniform and faculty dress-code standards remain in effect on *School Spirit Day*. If you do not have or do not wish to wear a FIDS Sharks tee-shirt, you may wear your regular school uniform.

Beach Clean-Up Project. FIDS's middle-schooler Jesse Hay has organized a beach clean-up through his [M.A.K.O.](#) Community Organization, in partnership with Debris Free Oceans and State Representative Michael Grieco. The clean-up will commence this Saturday, December 1, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. by the Red and White Jetty Lifeguard Tower (first lifeguard stand on South Beach by pier). Please note the following:

- Participation is voluntary;
- Children should be accompanied by a responsible adult;
- Documentation of community-service hours will be provided; and
- Trash bags, gloves, and instructions will be provided at check-in.

Jesse Hay and the [M.A.K.O.](#) organization welcome all interested volunteers!

Out of Office. I will be out of the office, Thursday, December 6 & Friday, December 7, 2018. During this absence, Mrs. Mollie Small, Assistant Head of School, will be in charge.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Bell".

[Michael Bell](#)

Head of School

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HOLIDAY BEACH CLEAN UP

Saturday, December 1st at 9:30am

Meet by the Jetty Lifeguard Stand on South Beach
(Red and White Tower by South Pointe Pier)

MAKO

(Miami Advocate Kids for the Ocean)
In Partnership With:



&

State Representative
Michael Grieco

