

## January Newsletter

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Academy Students and Parents,

Happy New Year! We're starting 2018 with celebrations over Academy student accomplishments, looking forward to a major charity event to be held here at Nease, and planning for next school year's Academy enrollment.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns related to the Academies, feel free to email me at [jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:jaime.combs@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

Jaime Combs  
Academy Coordinator

### COMMUNICATIONS AND HOSPITALITY DIGITAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS PASS INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION TEST

Both the Communications Academy Digital Design strand and the Academy of Hospitality & Tourism offer Digital Information Technology as the first-level Academy course. These D.I.T. students were the first to be able to take a professional certification exam for the 2017-18 school year, and we are proud to announce that 67 of our students passed the Microsoft Office Word industry certification exam. Both Mrs. Soto's and Ms. Cushman's students worked hard to prepare for and pass the exam, and we offer a huge congratulations for their accomplishment! D.I.T. students will also have the chance to take the Powerpoint and Excel professional certifications, and, if they pass, will earn the Microsoft Office Suite Industry Certification.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR  
HOLIDAY

January 15th

ACADEMY APPLICATION  
WINDOW FOR RISING 9<sup>TH</sup>/10<sup>TH</sup>  
GRADERS (NEW ACADEMY  
APPLICANTS ONLY)

January 18<sup>th</sup>-February 8<sup>th</sup>

TEACHER WORK DAY

January 29th

### SUCCEED THIS SEMESTER!

Students can start the second semester strong by getting help in any subject they're struggling in. Excel Time and NHS tutoring are excellent resources for students to utilize!

During Excel Time Session A, students can get help in: Social Studies, Math, Electives and Academy courses.  
During Excel Time Session B, students can get help in: English, Science and World Language courses

Students can also get peer tutoring by National Honor Society students in any core subject after school on Mondays & Wednesdays in the Media Center.

## REMAINING IN AN ACADEMY FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

Before winter break, all Academy students were asked to indicate if they want to remain in their Academy for the 2018-19 school year by signing an Intent to Return roster. If the student checked "Yes," than that student will be automatically re-enrolled in the Academy for 2018-19. If an Academy student indicated that he/she does not want to continue in the Academy next year, a form will be sent home for the student and a parent to sign, confirming that the student would like to be removed from the Academy next year. That form will be distributed to students at the end of the month, should be signed and returned to Mrs. Combs.

In regards to Out of Zone students, district policy states that Out of Zone Academy students no longer have to fill out an Out of Zone Waiver each year. Simply being on an Academy roster acts as the student's Out of Zone waiver.

## ACADEMY APPLICATION WINDOW OPENS JAN. 18<sup>TH</sup> FOR STUDENTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN AN ACADEMY

Current 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to apply to Academy programs during the application window: January 18<sup>th</sup> – February 8<sup>th</sup>. If there is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader not involved in an Academy this year, or if a current 9<sup>th</sup> grade Academy student wants to leave their 2017-18 Academy to take part in a different Academy at Nease, or at any high school in St. Johns County, for the 2018-19 school year, they will need to apply during the application window. This year applications will be submitted through the Student's Home Access Center account. Students are allowed to apply to up to three Academies, ranked in order of preference. For complete application instructions, go to [neaseacademies.com](http://neaseacademies.com)

## WOMEN IN I.T. ONE-WEEK SUMMER INTERNSHIPS



For the 5<sup>th</sup> year, Citi is offering a one-week paid internship focusing on technology and robotics for up to 18 girls. The purpose of the internship is to encourage girls to consider careers in Information Technology such as Programming, Project Management, Program Testing, Information Security, etc. Girls will have to be age 16 or older by June 1, 2018 in order to participate. The internship is Mon. – Fri., June 11 – 15, 2018 from 8:30 am – 5:00 pm and the salary is \$12 per hour. Those accepted must be available all 40 hours and are responsible for their own transportation to and from the Citi campus. Citi is located near Baptist South Hospital on the St.



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## ACADEMY PROBATION POLICY

A reminder that Academy students sign a contract at the beginning of each year stating that they will maintain certain academic and behavioral standards in order to remain in an Academy program. Academy students must maintain a total GPA of at least a 2.0, and must maintain at least a 2.5 GPA (75%) in an Academy class. A student in an Academy must also maintain a good discipline record.

In accordance with district policy, if a student does not meet these requirements, he/she will be placed on probation for a semester. If, at the end of that probation period, he/she does not have a GPA which meets the requirements, or fails to have an improved discipline record, the student will be removed from the Academy. If an Out of Zone student is removed from an Academy, he/she will be transferred back to his/her zoned school.

Letters will be sent home after report card grades are released, to make students and parents aware of probationary status for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

Johns/Duval county line. To apply, young ladies should complete the online application found at [womeninit.org](http://womeninit.org) between Jan. 1 – Feb. 15. Students will go through an interview process with Citi employees.

### 3RD ANNUAL SOUPER BOWL CHARITY EVENT COMING UP FEBRUARY 1ST

The incredible SOUPer Bowl fundraiser is scheduled to return for its third year, in hopes of raising thousands more dollars for the Blessings in a Backpack foundation. Each week, a group of IB students purchase, pack and deliver backpacks to hungry children at The Webster School, through the Blessings in a Backpack program. Currently, they help feed hundreds of students each weekend, by providing backpacks filled with food. It costs \$100 to provide food for each child per year. Last year's event brought in over \$30,000 for the foundation, and was a smashing success. This year's event is scheduled for February 1<sup>st</sup>, at Nease, from 6-8 pm. The event will feature a number of upscale local restaurants, each armed with their best soup for guests to sample, going head-to-head to see whose recipe is best. Tickets are just \$25 each, and there are packages available for families and corporate sponsors. The SOUPer Bowl is selling tickets to their event at [www.studentstacklehunger.org](http://www.studentstacklehunger.org). Check out the website to learn more about the event, buy tickets, or simply donate to this incredibly worthy cause. Students in both the Hospitality and Communications Academies are working on this event with IB students.

