

THE DRAGONFIRE



HOT News from the Studio

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Portsmouth, August 2026

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER!

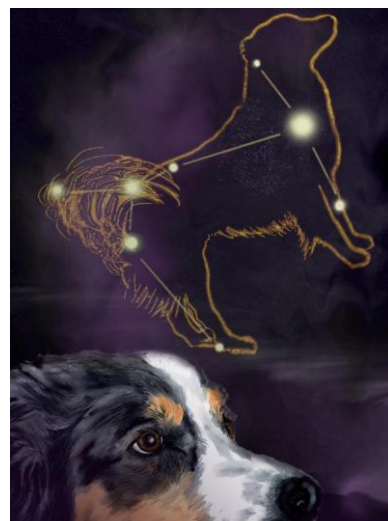
...always thought that to be a funny saying. Just what is (or are) the dog days of summer, anyway? Time to do a little research!

According to the Farmer's Almanac, the dog days of summer is from July 3 to August 11, forty days following the summer solstice. Traditionally, these are the hottest and most humid days of the year.

This period of intense heat coincides with the heliacal rising of Sirius, the Dog Star, part of the constellation Canis Major. Ancient civilizations noticed the star appeared in the eastern sky just before dawn during midsummer.

The Greeks believed its brilliance intensified the summer sun, and its name, "Sirius" (σεῖριος), even means "scorching." For the Egyptians, Sirius—called Sothis—signaled the annual flooding of the Nile, a critical event for agriculture and survival.

While the star itself has no actual effect on Earth's temperature, the lore surrounding Sirius has endured for thousands of years. -- Just a bit of summer school astronomy and folklore information to add to your brain!



UPDATE YOUR CALENDARS!

The August 1st Portsmouth Belt Advancement is Cancelled! Those students being considered for advancement will be notified and tested during an upcoming class.

UPCOMING STUDIO CLOSURES:

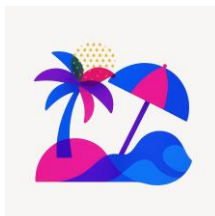
August 8	Saturday
September 4-7	Friday – Monday (Labor Day Weekend)
September 19	Saturday
November 26-29	Thursday – Sunday (Thanksgiving Weekend)
December 24-27	Thursday – Sunday (Christmas Weekend)
January 1, 2027	New Year's Day

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

October 10	Portsmouth Belt Advancement
October 23	Spooky Friday (4:30 – 5:15) NO kid's class. Adult class at 6pm
November 7	Black Belt / Black Sash Testing s/ Grandmaster DeMasco
December 12	Portsmouth Belt Advancement

Happy August Birthdays to.....

Kayla T.	August 15
Shankir P.	August 26



Thoughts.....

"People tell you the world looks a certain way. Parents tell you how to think. Schools tell you how to think. TV. Religion. And then at a certain point, if you're lucky, you realize you can make up your own mind. Nobody sets the rules but you. You can design your own life." — Carrie Ann Moss

"You are the sum total of everything you've ever seen, heard, eaten, smelled, been told, forgot — it's all there. Everything influences each of us, and because of that I try to make sure that my experiences are positive." — Maya Angelou

"Remember always that you have not only the right to be an individual; you have an obligation to be one. You cannot make any useful contribution in life unless you do this." — Eleanor Roosevelt