



Palencia Elementary Newsletter

Pirate's Post

THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

Ahoy Palencia passengers and crew,

I hope everyone enjoyed M.L. King Jr Day. As we move forward in the coming weeks, there are two more 4-day school weeks prior to Spring Break. Just as a reminder Feb. 3rd is an In-service Day and Feb. 17 is President's Day. I hope you and your family are able to enjoy these long weekends.

Speaking of the In-service Day on Feb. 3rd, our teachers will be provided a special training based on technology and the digital conversion. One of the topics will be our **new email system**. The district is converting to a new system and we will be one of the first schools to make the change. Three other schools have piloted the conversion and have done so successfully. With any change there is the potential for some complications. Please be aware that we are scheduled to make the change within the next few weeks, so please be patient. Furthermore, please advise us if you experience any issues in email communication.

Safety First – During morning arrival and during afternoon dismissal, we have several families that are walking in the flow of traffic. Although it is convenient to park as close as possible to the school, but it is only a few more steps to keep your children safe. If you are entering the building, please park in the lower parking lot or facing the road and use the sidewalk to enter the building. By using the sidewalk, children will remain safely away from moving cars.

Do you like to run? How about walking? The **Character Counts! Run** is coming up. I hope you will join us as we walk/run through our communities. There is a 6K and a 3k available. This is a great time to stretch those legs as you are preparing for the River Run or just to go for a walk with friends.

Does your child know how to play Chess? Beginning in February we will have an after school **Chess Crew**. This initial club is only for students that know how to play, our goal is to have a crew in the future that will teach students how to play. If you would like to help with this group please contact me. If your child is interested in playing, please have them pick up a permission slip from the front office. Space will be limited! Join me in congratulating our newest members of the Principal's Math Challenge. Our newest **Math Mateys** are *Emily Walczak, Gabby Sartori, Abhishek Kundalia, Bailey Wise, Christopher Kinsey, and Emily Bradshaw* who passed a grade level above her. Congratulations!!

Captain Allen Anderson

Calendar of events:

- **Feb 3:** Teacher's Planning / No School
- **Feb 4-11:** Jump Rope for Heart
- **Feb 7:** Father/Daughter Dance
Mother/Son Fun
- **Feb 7:** Box Tops Due
- **Feb 8:** Character Counts! Run
- **Feb 17:** President's Day / No School
- **Feb 28:** Tennis Social



Show your School Spirit!

Monday— Red
Tuesday—Black
Wednesday—Green
Thursday—White
Friday - Spirit Wear

School News



It's time for our **Jump Rope for Heart Event!** Over the next few weeks, your children will learn about their heart health, practice their jump rope skills, and they will have the opportunity to give back to the community while helping to earn PE equipment for our school.

To celebrate our Jump Rope for Heart, all students will get to participate in some fun jumping activities during their PE classes from Feb 4th – Feb 11th! Please come join in the fun I know your children would love to show off their skills.

The donation envelope your child is bringing home is an invitation for your family to participate in this important fundraiser and discuss the impact of heart disease. Please ask family and friends to support your child's participation by making contributions. Checks should be made payable to: American Heart Association. We ask that children not go door-to-door or ask strangers for donations.

We encourage supporters to donate online at www.heart.org/jump. Help your child send emails to friends and family and include a message about why he or she is participating. You can also send an e-card through our new system. It is fun – get online and check it out!

All Envelopes and Online Donations are due by Friday February 14th.

If you would like to ask any additional questions or would like to volunteer to help make this event a success, please e-mail Mrs. Brougham at broughj@stjohns.k12.fl.us or sign up at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B0544A9AD2DA02-jump2/2726626.

Palencia Elementary and the American Heart Association thank you and your child for your support.



Center for the Arts
Registration 2014-2015

Center for the Arts Information Night
Thursday, January 30th 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Begins January 7, 2014

Application deadline - Feb 10

Applications available for new and returning students

Community News

The **CHARACTER COUNTS!** Steering Committee is calling all walkers, runners and fitness enthusiasts to participate in the CHARACTER COUNTS! 6 Pillars 6K/3K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 8, 2014 at 2 p.m. The run/walk will begin and end at Palencia Elementary School located at 355 Palencia Village Drive, St. Augustine, FL 32095.

Walkers and runners will enjoy a scenic course running through the neighborhoods of Kensington and Las Calinas and can choose to participate in the 6K (3.73 miles) or 3K (1.86 miles) distance. Registration fees are as follows:

6K-\$20 before January 1, \$25 January 1-February 7, \$30 on race day
3K-\$15 before January 1, \$20 January 1-February 7, \$25 on race day

Registration forms and more information are available online at www.racesmith.com.

Race proceeds will support CHARACTER COUNTS! initiatives throughout the St. Johns County School District (SJCS). The run/walk is open to all ages, and the top three winners will be awarded in each of the age categories as well as the overall male and female finishers. A cash donation will be awarded to the school with the most registrants.

This event is produced by the CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering Committee and is presented by Beaver Toyota Scion with support from Action News as well as other community groups and sponsors.

The SJCS, along with area businesses, youth organizations and civic groups, selected the national character educational program of CHARACTER COUNTS! as a countywide initiative to instill positive character traits in young people throughout the county. Additionally, the SJCS became the first school district in Florida to implement Pursuing Victory with Honor in all of its athletic programs. Character education is an important part of every School Improvement Plan and a major component of the Student Code of Conduct and the school district's Strategic Plan.



CHOCOLATE AND BEYOND – A SWEET WAY TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS

Chocolate and Beyond, a celebration of chocolate, desserts, and other culinary sensations, will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2014 from 2 – 4 p.m. at First Coast Technical College, Building C in St. Augustine. Guests will enjoy tasty samples from some of the area's finest restaurants and specialty shops. A silent auction, raffle, and contests will also be part of this fun and exciting afternoon.

Hosted by The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of St. Johns County, proceeds from Chocolate and Beyond benefit the volunteer program, and young students through book purchases. Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be purchased on the RSVP website (www.rsvpstjohns.com), or in person at Whetstone Chocolates (King Street and Anastasia Blvd locations), Cold Cow Ice Cream, and TD Bank in St. Augustine. Call RSVP at 904-547-3945 for more information.

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JULINGTON CREEK BASEBALL

Please go to www.julingtoncreekbaseball.org and register today for the Spring 2014 Rec season. Babe Ruth Division ages 13yr - 18yr will remain open until January 31st.

FIELD OF DREAMS BASEBALL

Any child with special needs from ages 5 to 18 or up to age 21 if still in high school can register. Registration is currently open and will remain open the entire season. Please visit the Field of Dreams Website

Visit the PTO website at

<http://palenciaelementarypto.weebly.com> to see the many ways to help us reach our goals!

Palencia Elementary School
355 Palencia Village Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32095

Allen Anderson, Principal
Melisa Norwich, Assistant Principal

904-547-4010
www-pes.stjohns.k12.fl.us



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