



# Pirate's Post

## THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

**Ahoy Palencia passengers and crew,**

### Calendar of events:

- Dec 12: Spelling Bee-Grade 5
- Dec 17: Winter Concert
- Dec 20: Early Release (1:50pm)
- Dec 23-Jan 3: Winter Break
- Jan 7: First day back to school
- Jan 20: MLK Jr Day—No school



**Show your  
School Spirit!**

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

Thank you for taking the time to read this lengthy newsletter. There is a lot of important information so please read all the way through the entire newsletter. There is BIG news in the upcoming paragraphs.

OK, I couldn't wait so we will begin with the BIG news! However, there is more important news to follow so please be sure to read all the way through. Late last week, the district informed me that Palencia Elementary will soon become a one-to-one school. As we are a digital school and our textbooks are delivered in a digital format, we will be given additional devices to complete our goal to be 1:1. I am not sure the exact device we will have yet, but the third, fourth and fifth graders will probably be using some type of laptop. The current iPads will then move to Kindergarten, First and Second Grades. We can expect this to occur during late January or February. Earlier in the year, I held meeting to discuss our move to a 1:1 school. We are very thankful that the district is going to help us accomplish this goal. If you have purchased an iPad for your child to use in school, they will still be able to use their personal device if you wish. You also have the option of bringing in any personally owned iPad for us to load the textbooks and any other important apps that we have and are allowed to install on your machine. This will hopefully eliminate the need to carry devices to and from school. There is still a lot more information to be shared about this process and I will be sharing more in the coming weeks as more decisions are made. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

**Reminder :** Next Friday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, is an Early Release Day prior to the Winter Break. Students will be dismissed an hour early at 1:50pm. School will resume for students on Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

**Another Reminder:** Morning drop off begins at 8:10am. Only patrols and students that have made special arrangements with a teacher should be dropped off earlier than 8:10am. This becomes a safety concern as there is no supervision until 8:10. Thank you for your cooperation.

*Continued on next page*

**Congratulations** to Mrs. Dowdie and the PES Chorus! Several of our Chorus members, led by Mrs. Dowdie, were asked to perform with David Benoit at the Saint Augustine Amphitheatre. They performed last night and will perform again tonight. The initial reviews of our students' performance are stellar! We are very thankful that they were given this opportunity to exhibit our Palencia Chorus. Congratulations once again to this group.

**Another congratulations** goes out to our Third grade students for their recent performance. They entertained and provided learning experiences for the audience with their show 'Grammar Rocks'. This was a wonderful show and the students did an amazing job. The students were also excited and enjoyed the experience. We are very proud of these students and are thankful for all the hard work Mrs. Dowdie and the Third Grade teachers put in to this production.

On another note, our staff was recently privileged to have a Thanksgiving meal provided for us. PTO, along with several parents, cooked some of the most delicious dishes for our staff to enjoy. We are all very grateful for this very kind and generous gesture. There are still several dishes that were left here after this event. If you left one, please claim it soon. Shortly after break we will be donating these items to an organization in need. You could always take it and fill it with more delicious food : ).

### **Help Needed!!!**

We have a several ways you can help out school. There is a garden in the front of the school that has not been used yet. Recently, we were awarded a two grants for that garden area. In the next few days we will be receiving all the materials for a hydroponic garden. This will expand the learning opportunities of our students, as well as provide additional food for the school. We will be in need of several volunteers to help assemble this new garden. If you are interested in assisting please let me know. Dads, if you would like to help and are usually unable to help do to other obligations, this could be your chance. We may be doing this project over break and would appreciate the help. Finally, we are still looking to fill some study areas in our school. We are looking for some furniture donations in case your holiday plans include upgrading a living room, dining room or office. We have two areas where we would like to put in some chairs, or couches, and coffee tables. We are also looking for some office furniture to help us as we host the administrative staff of the two new schools. Finally, we would like a large conference table or dining room table to be used in the conference room or as a "Captains Table" for several special occasions. I will be happy to write a thank you letter for tax purposes for your donation.

Last, but not least, a very special Thank You goes out to Lightsey Christmas Trees for donating the tree that is up in the front of the school. The tree adds a lot to our school and we are very thankful for this generous donation. It has been wonderful to hear the positive comments from our students as they shared the news of the tree.



I sincerely hope you and your family have a very safe and memorable holiday.

*Captain Allen Anderson*

## Gifted Parent Advisory Meetings

Tuesday, January 21	3:30-4:30	Durbin Creek
Tuesday, March 25	5:30-6:30	Ocean Palms
Tuesday, May 13	3:30-4:30	Julington Creek



Opened to all parents of gifted students at any level (K-12) to express concerns, ask questions, etc. The District contact for the Gifted Program is Helen DiMare (helen.dimare@stjohns.k12.fl.us, (904) 547-7692).

## School News

The Pirate Chorus celebrates the season with Cool Yule 2013! Friends and family are invited to join them at 6:30pm on Tuesday, December 17th; the performance will be repeated for the school on the morning of December 18th and on December 19th for the residents of Glenmoor in World Golf Village.



## Community News

- Announcing, registration is now open for the **19<sup>th</sup> annual Tools for Success Family Conference**, for and about families of children with special needs birth to 22 yrs. (And it's free!) **Registration details : [www.fdlrscrown.org](http://www.fdlrscrown.org)**
- 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. Registration forms and more information are available online at [www.racesmith.com](http://www.racesmith.com).

# PTO News

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



**Our Wonderful  
Sponsors!**

<p><b>PIRATE'S TREASURE LEVEL SPONSOR</b></p> <p>THE PALENCIA CLUB</p>	<p><b>JOLLY ROGER LEVEL SPONSORS</b></p> <p>PALENCIA BUSINESS CENTER on Market Street</p> <p>ST. JOHNS PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY</p> <p>Bartram Dental Center</p> <p>Design extensions</p>
<p><b>BLACKJACK LEVEL SPONSORS</b></p> <p>BOZARD</p> <p>Ford</p> <p>Palencia DENTAL</p> <p>OSI</p> <p>DAVIDSON Realty, Inc. "TRUSTED REAL ESTATE ADVISORS"</p> <p>Village Chiropractic Center</p> <p>KEN BERRY, R.N., D.C. Chiropractic Practitioner 904.940.0361 www.thevillagechiropractor.com</p> <p>bricks 4 kidz</p> <p>St. Augustine Academy of the Arts</p> <p>COFFEE PERKS COFFEE • TEA • VENDING</p>	<p><b>BOUNTY LEVEL SPONSORS</b></p> <p>Dr. Mary's Place</p> <p>CornerStone of Homes</p> <p>sjea st. johns eye associates</p> <p>Sprockets Bicycle Shop</p> <p>IMAX THEATER</p>
<p><b>DOUBLOON LEVEL SPONSORS</b></p> <p>Palencia Pet Clinic</p> <p>Liz</p> <p>Advanced</p> <p>DANZAR</p> <p>Dedovadi</p> <p>Chick-fil-A</p>	<p>PALENCIA BUSINESS CENTER on Market Street</p> <p>ST. JOHNS PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY</p> <p>Bartram Dental Center</p> <p>Design extensions</p>