



## Palencia Elementary Newsletter

# Pirate's Post

## THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

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### Calendar of events:

- **September 10:** SAC meeting at 4:00 pm. All parents are invited to attend!
- **September 11:** 1st Green Team Meeting 3:00 pm
- **September 12:** Helping Hands: 8:30 am
- **September 19:** National Talk Like a Pirate Day
- **September 20:** Boy Scout Meeting at 7:00 pm.
- **September 21:** Pinwheels for Peace Art Project
- **October 12:** Deadline for first Bxotop Collection Contest

What a difference a few weeks can make! Since setting sail a mere 14 days ago, our teaching crew and young passengers have become seasoned sailors—we are now cruising along smoothly. We have established our rituals and routines. In classrooms, teachers have been building rapport and developing their classroom community. In the cafeteria, students have learned the expectations for purchasing their lunches, recycling their non-consumables, and cleaning up after themselves. Finally, we have been getting more successful each day at dismissing your children back to you efficiently and safely.

Here are a few reminders about school routines and expectations:

**Dismissal:** If your child is going home a different way, we must know this before 2:15. We cannot make changes after that time! To change how your child goes home, send a note with your child's teacher AND email our receptionist, Noel Day: [noel.day@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:noel.day@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

**Bikers:** All Bikers MUST have a helmet or they will not be allowed to leave the school campus with their bike. They will need to walk home or have you pick them up.

**Parent Pick-up:** You are not allowed to park back by the bike racks and pick your child up at that location. This area is for busses only!

**Dress Code:** We are encouraging all students to wear our school uniform—polo-style shirts in red, green, or white and khaki or black bottoms. Please check that your child is conforming to district dress code; shorts and skirts must not be shorter than 4 inches above the knee and sleeveless tops with thin straps are not allowed. We have had to give some students verbal reminders of these rules.

Wishing you clear skies and smooth sailing,

*Captain Don Campbell*

## Ask Mrs. Damiano, Cafeteria Manager

Dear Ms. Damiano,

*I was wondering if the cafeteria provides ketchup. My son has a bad habit of eating his lunch with ketchup and if there isn't any he refuses to eat. Does the cafeteria provide ketchup? He says you don't.*

*Thank you for your help,*

**Concerned Parent**

Dear Concerned Parent,

Thanks for your note! This gives me a chance to explain how that little packet of ketchup is part of a much bigger picture. Because of the new Federal Meal Patterns, which closely regulate nutrition and prices, we are not permitted to set out ketchup for the "taking" unless it is on the menu.

At this time, the *National School Lunch Program* and the *USDA* has put strict guidelines on food that goes out of the school cafeterias.

Nutrient Analysis including calorie count, fat grams, and cost of food, are only some of the factors that need to be considered since Congress finalized this bill in March.

However, I can allow students to purchase ketchup as an ala carte item on days that it is not part of the school meal. Condiments such as ketchup may be purchased for 25 cents per 1oz serving). Students must have the required amount of funds to pay for items that are not on the menu for serving on a particular day.

I realize this may seem so trivial, but I am not permitted to bend the rules. These rules must be strictly en-



forced by our district, the state of Florida and our country.

[CHOOSEMY-PLATE.GOV](http://CHOOSEMY-PLATE.GOV) is a great resource for understanding these new meal patterns.

For other questions regarding this or other food issues, you may also contact our district food service office: 547-3974.

Kathleen Damiano

Food & Nutrition Manager

Farm to School Liaison

## The PES Clothing Closet

**NEW:** We have been given some private donations of new polo-style tops in red and white, khaki shorts, and slacks. If you would like your child to have a school uniform to wear but were not able to budget for it at this year, please contact our Guidance Counselor, Kathy Cook at 547-4031.

**USED:** Accidents happen...food trays get tipped, slips on the wet playground are inevitable. Students on occasion need a different outfit to be in compliance with district dress code.

We are seeking donations of "gently worn" clothing for our clinic. We would like to have a small collection of shirts and shorts (especially elastic waist) in all youth sizes for students to wear when they need a quick change of clothing. Donations may be sent in to our school nurse, Lisa Gonzalez.

"An Apple a day keeps the doctor away."

"Make half your plate fruits and vegetables."

## Mrs. Wardley's Art Agenda

A big THANK YOU to all the students and teachers who have been sending in recyclables like plastic containers for paint, magazines and other art supplies to the art room! We even got a blender to make our own handmade recycled paper!!! We could still use some 'green' cleaning wipes, towels (gently used), brooms and dust pans.

Art Appreciation in my classroom is based on our 'Artist of the Month' program. Each month we will be studying a different artist whose artwork is either historically or culturally significant and relates to various elements and principles of design. The artist of the month for September is Louise Nevelson, who was born on September 23, 1899. She was a sculptor who was known for her large, monochromatic abstract sculptures made of found objects, wood, and other environmental materials. Kindergarteners will be making their found object collages using interesting forms and shapes. If you find any interesting wood pieces, objects or materials- send them in to the art room!!! THANKS!!



### PINWHEELS FOR PEACE!

We will be participating in several exciting school-wide art events and displays this year. Students have already begun working on our first school wide installation art project called *The Pinwheels for Peace Project* <http://www.pinwheelsforpeace.com/pinwheelsforpeace/home.html> to celebrate the International Day of Peace on Friday, **September 21<sup>st</sup>**. Students have been creating uniquely designed pinwheels using peaceful images and words during their Wednesday resource classes. On September 21<sup>st</sup>, we are planning on organizing a 'Pinwheel Parade' in the morning so that students can line up with their pinwheels and carry them outside to the soccer fields. Students and classes will form a gigantic human peace sign while displaying the pinwheels that they created. Once outside, students will share a moment of silence and their thoughts and feelings about peace. We are arranging to have an aerial photograph taken, thanks to first grade teacher, Mrs. Palmatier, whose husband and father-in-law are pilots. Please visit the Palencia Art Room Webpage for more details and updates on this wonderful project!

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A pinwheel is a childhood symbol – it reminds us of a time when things were simple, joyful, peaceful. .”

~Pinwheels for Peace Project

## Afternoon Enrichment Opportunities

### Enrichment Classes at PES Extended Day:

Starts on Monday September 10<sup>th</sup>. These enrichment classes are available to all Palencia Elementary School students, both extended day students and non extended day students. Those not attending extended day must complete

the extended day application and pay the \$60 (\$100 family) registration fee, and then may sign up for any enrichment classes for the entire school year.

All extended day classes start right after school. They are finished at 4 pm MTThF and 3 pm on Wednesdays.

**Mondays:** Drama Kids

**Tuesdays:** Young Rembrandts, Karate, Mad Science

**Wednesdays:** Bricks 4 Kids

**Thursdays:** Play Golf

**Fridays:** Tumbling

*See the email attachment for more information.*

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Kasey Baker, Assistant Principal

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## Thar's Treasure in those Boxtops!

Ahoy, Parents of Pirates! This year we have a goal to earn \$2,000 in treasure through the Box Tops for Education Program. The way this works is that the school receives 10¢ for every Box Top collected and submitted by certain deadlines. This equates to 22,000 Box Tops (That's 40 per child!). You can help our school achieve this goal by:

- Go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) to find participating products, register for Box Tops for Education (BTFE), and earn eboxtops credits for our school. E-boxtops are worth 10¢ and you do not have to purchase anything at all!
- Collect Box Tops, clip them along the dotted lines, & place them in a plastic bag (maximum of 50 Box Tops per bag).
- Have your child bring their Box Tops to class and drop them in their classroom Box Tops collection bag.

The first PES Box Tops Competition is now through October 12! Be sure to read the attached **Box Tops Fact Sheet** for more information .

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