



Palencia Elementary Newsletter

Pirate's Post

THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



Calendar of events:

- **December 17:** Health Screenings for students in K, 1, & 3
- **December 17–21:** Collections at PES for Toys for Tots (through the Swashbucklers)
- **December 18:** *Racquet Up for Reading* at Palencia Tennis Center. Social Hour starts at 5:30 pm.
- **December 20:** Dunkin Donuts Blood Drive
- **December 20:** PES Chorus Winter Concert 6:30 pm.
- **December 21:** Final day of 2nd quarter. Early release at 1:50
- **January 7:** Classes resume for 2nd semester

Final Week: Can you believe it? This is our final week of the 2nd quarter and the holiday break will begin this Friday at 1:50 pm. This grading period was a little short, 39 days, but has been jammed full of meaningful, satisfying, and often joy-filled activities here at Palencia Elementary. Please check our Calendar of Events for just this coming week!

'Tis the Season! It is truly the season of giving this month! We have so many activities going on now that are helping our students learn about sharing and caring for their community. Eight classes at our school “adopted” needy families for whom they are collecting holiday gifts. Our 4th grades united to collect blankets and other supplies for the residents at Bayview nursing home. Next week, we are inviting our families to support our Swashbuckler Pirate friends in their collection of Toys for Tots. For those adults who have even more good will to share, there will be a blood drive at Dunkin Donuts on Wednesday, December 20th. So many worthy causes that our caring community can support!

Final Bike Brigades Our Bike Brigades have been a wonderful success helping students to learn to ride their bicycle safely to school. However, the students needing assistance have dwindled and all students are now safely riding their bicycle to school. Therefore, starting January 7th, we will no longer be providing Bike Brigades either in the morning or afternoons. We encourage parents who have been assisting with our Bike Brigades to continue if they wish. We would also like to thank our teachers who gave up their valuable planning time to provide this service to our school. Thank you Bike Brigade Teachers!! Job well done!

Wishing you and your family a safe and fun-filled holiday break!

~ Captain Don Campbell

Health Screenings

In compliance with Florida Statute 381.0056 (5a), regarding school health services, we are notifying you that students in the St. Johns County School System in Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd grades will be offered free screening for vision, hearing, height/weight measurement for growth and development and other possible health problems. The students of Palencia Elementary will be screened on Monday, December 17, 2012.

Your child will be screened unless you notify the school, in writing, that you do not want your child to participate. If your child wears glasses, please make sure that they have their glasses with them on screening day. Nurses from the St. Johns County School District, in conjunction with school personnel and trained volunteers, will conduct the screenings. We are pleased to be able to offer programs that support the health and well being of our students. Please contact Leslie Shugart at 547-7574 if you have questions or concerns.

PTO Fundraiser for our Media Center



On December 18th from 5:30-8:00 pm, the PTO is hosting **Racquet Up for Reading**. It's an event at the Palencia Tennis Center that benefits the PES Media Center. It will be a very merry evening with delicious catered food by A1A Ale Works courtesy of Bozard Ford, a rockin' DJ and a wonderful Silent Auction for those last minute gifts. If you play tennis, the Palencia Tennis Pro's will be organizing tennis play. By joining your friends for a festive evening, you are helping to raise money towards the purchase of wonderful books. Our PES Pirates love to read, let's get their hands on more books! More info can be found on www.palenciaelementarypto.weebly.com. Don't forget to like us on Facebook too!

Your Shopping Can Help Our School Earn Cash

Do all of your holiday shopping from home while helping PES earn cash for your purchases! There are three PES kickback programs (Amazon.com, Target Red Card and Box Tops for Education) that allow you to do just that! They are easy to use and benefit our school greatly. For details go to the Palencia Elementary PTO website: <http://palenciaelementarypto.weebly.com/> and click on the "Kickback Programs" tab.

2nd BOX TOPS CONTEST!

The PES Second Box Tops Contest is now through February 15 so let's remember to continue to send in your Box Tops! Classes will receive a popsicle party for every 500 Box Tops collected. So far 13,098 have been collected for our school. Great job to all teachers, parents and students and let's keep up the fantastic work!

Girls on the Run Coming to PES

Girls on the Run will be coming to Palencia Elementary this Spring! Look for our Lime Green Registration flyers that will be going home on **January 7th, 2013!**

Visit our Website at: www.gotrneflorida.org for more information!



Redirecting Children's Behavior Course

The Redirecting Children's Behavior course presents non-violent strategies that foster appropriate behavior in children. The following topics are explored: assessing and building relationships, styles of interaction and results to expect, handling emotions during heat-of-the-moment exchange, diagnosing motivations that lead to misbehavior, appropriate redirection strategies, improving self-esteem, fine-tuning communication skills, and creating problem solvers.

The Exceptional Student Education department of the St. Johns County School District is offering the course free of charge. The 15-hour course is divided into a series of five 3-hour classes (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7). Participants **must attend the first class** to be eligible for the remaining classes. The course is open to school district staff and to the public. Seating is limited and already filling up. To register, please contact Jill Bullard at bullarj@stjohns.k12.fl.us 547-7712. If you leave a voice message, be sure to spell your name and provide a phone number or email address. Seats will be held until 5:45p during the first session – and then made available to those on the waiting list.

Parents as Partners ESE Newsletter

Our district's ESE department publishes a very informative newsletter each semester. To read the Winter edition, go to: <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/depts/ese/Winter%202012.pdf>

If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter via email from now on, please email your email address to bullarj@stjohns.k12.fl.us and we will gladly add you to our Parent Newsletter Email List.

Swashbucklers Collect for Tots

Captain Mayhem and his band of Swashbucklers are collecting toys for needy children and are hoping their fellow pirates at Palencia will help them! We will be gathering unwrapped toys at school all next week to contribute to their swag for kids. Please help if you can.



The Green Team Globe

Do you have an artificial Christmas tree? Well, 33,000,000 trees are cut down every year!!!! Between Thanksgiving and New Years Americans boost their energy consumption by 27%. You can buy LED light to help, they use 90% less energy than a traditional holiday lights!

-Emma Queener

New Foster Homes Needed

On January 7th, 2013 at 6:30pm, the Family Integrity Program will be holding an orientation session at the HHS building located at 1955 US1 South, 32086. We will present information and answer questions about Foster Parenting in St. Johns County. Please attend if you wish to help our children in any way. Please call 904-209-6131 or 209-6127 for more information. Thank you!

GOT  **?**
Become a Foster Parent
904-209-6131

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

Don Campbell, Principal
Kasey Baker, Assistant Principal

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



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Join Us at Palencia for a Run!

The CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering Committee is calling all walkers, runners and fitness enthusiasts to participate in the CHARACTER COUNTS! 6 Pillars 6K Run/Walk on Saturday, **February 9, 2013** 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. This event is presented by Bozard Ford Lincoln.

“The CHARACTER COUNTS! initiative is extremely important in St. Johns County, not just within our schools, but throughout the residential and business community as well,” said Jeff King, vice president and general manager of Bozard Ford Lincoln. “We are proud to be part of this inaugural event, and look forward to being involved for many years to come.”

Walkers and runners will enjoy a scenic course running through the neighborhoods of Kensington and The Pines within the Palencia community 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 and more information is available online at www.racesmith.com.

Race proceeds will support CHARACTER COUNTS! initiatives throughout the St. Johns County School District (SJCSD). 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. In addition, a festival atmosphere will surround the race events, with interactive activities, crafts and food vendors

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