



## Palencia Elementary Newsletter

# Pirate's Post

## THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

**Calendar of events:**

- **April 8:** SAC Meeting 4 p.m.
- **April 9:** **Bag It Up** for Goodwill. 8:00 a.m.
- **April 11:** 1st grade play: *Dinostar!* 6:30 pm.
- **April 12:** Elective forms due to Sebastian Middle School
- **April 15–24** FCAT assessments: Grades 3, 4, 5
- **April 24:** EARTH DAY celebration activities
- **April 25:** Kindergarten Play: *Squirm* 6:30 pm.
- **May 2:** Class Pictures
- **May 2:** ART SHOW & Spaghetti Dinner 5– 8 pm.
- **May 3:** 2nd Grade Flea Market

**Show your  
School Spirit!**

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

Welcome back! After a wonderful Spring Break respite, we were happy to see your children's smiling faces back on Tuesday. We will be sailing at full mast now through the end of the year with lots of events and celebrations.

**Upcoming Events in April:** Probably the most critical activity for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students and teachers in April is the FCAT. Please read the article on page 3 for many more details about those assessments in Reading, Math, and Science. Our 1st grade and Kindergarten students are looking forward to their stage performances in their class plays this month. School-wide, we will be celebrating Earth Day with a plethora of activities later this month. Finally, our Goodwill drive is set for this Tuesday, so please begin collecting your donations for drop-off that morning.

**Volunteer Honors:** Congratulations to **Laurel Madson**, our PTO Co-President, who was honored as the third place winner at the St. Johns County Volunteer of the Year Awards Ceremony this week. Congratulations, Mrs. Madson, and thanks for all you do for our school and our kids.

**Parent Pick-up Reminder:** Please be aware that there is no parking allowed on the driveway behind the school which connects Shannon Road to Palencia Village Drive. Students may be picked up from the car line in front of the school or from the back pick-up loop after buses have left. If you are meeting your children at the bike racks, you need to bike/walk onto campus or park your car in our school parking lot before joining them.

*Captain Don Campbell*

April Lunch Menu: [Click Here](#)



## FCAT Update

The countdown has begun; the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests (FCAT) will begin the week of April 15th for all of our students in grades 3, 4, and 5. Testing will begin with Reading. All three grades will have 70 minute sessions in Reading on Monday, April 15th, and then a 2nd session on Tuesday, April 16th. Wednesday and Thursday, April 16th and 17th, will be two segments of Math testing for 3rd and 4th graders, and two sessions of Science testing for 5th graders. That Friday, April 19th will be devoted to make-up testing.

The following week, 5th graders will take their FCAT Math assessments on the computer. Mrs. Cooper and Fedak's classes will test on April 22nd and 23rd; Mrs. Holmes' class will test on April 24th and 25th. This will be the first year of computer-based FCAT testing in elementary schools across the state. This will not be a new format though, for our students, who have had a lot of practice with digital testing this year! Students will still have access to pencils and scratch paper for working out their answers to the math problems

For our 3rd graders taking the FCAT for the first time, please be aware that 3rd grade is the mandatory retention year for those students scoring a Level 1 in Reading. Informational letters about this state requirement were given out in the fall and were sent home again this week to those students of parents who did not return the initial letter with their signature. Please read through this information carefully and sign and return this letter to your third grade teacher.

Here are a few tips for helping your child do his or her best on these assessments:

- ◆ Make sure your child is getting a good night's sleep each night and eating a nutritious breakfast each morning.
- ◆ Don't focus on the test with your child. Do something fun and non-stressful on evenings before testing.
- ◆ Don't send your child to school if he or she might be sick; they are not allowed to stop a test once they have begun and resume it another day. We have opportunities to make-up missed tests on other days.

## Don't forget: **Bag It UP** for Goodwill!!

Next Tuesday is our donations drive for Goodwill! Please send in your contributions of clothing, small household items, books, and toys with your child that morning. Ambassadors from Goodwill will be standing by to collect donated items from students as they enter the building and go to class.

Don't forget—every child with a donation that day will get a certificate for a Free frozen yogurt from Yobe and be entered into a contest to win tickets to Walt Disney World or The Alligator Farm. In addition, if 60% of students participate, our school receives \$1000.00!!! Bag it up!



## Arts Around the World at Pacetti Bay Middle

The Palencia Elementary community is invited to come out and enjoy a night of art, music, fun, and dinner at Pacetti Bay Middle School at their *Arts Around The World* evening on April 23, 2013 from 5:00 to 8:00. Students from Pacetti as well as guests from neighboring schools will perform that evening. There will be drawings for a variety of class baskets and a Silent Auction for bigger ticket items. Dinners, which include a 1/4 chicken, rice and beans, mac and cheese, a roll, drink and dessert provided by World Golf Renaissance, may be pre-ordered for \$8.00.

All proceeds will go towards continued training and the ongoing development for teachers of The Pacetti Bay International Baccalaureate program. Your dinners must be pre-ordered by April 16th. Order forms are available at the Pacetti Bay front office. Contact Tracie Wilson at [raytesmor@bellsouth.net](mailto:raytesmor@bellsouth.net) 234-5303 for more information.

## Rising 6th grader Information

We have sent home forms from both Sebastian Middle and Pacetti Bay Middle for rising 6th graders to complete indicating their preferences for elective classes next year. Those forms need to be returned to us by April 14th (SMS) or April 19th (PBMS). Students will also be taking field trips to visit their future middle schools for orientations in May. Students zoned for Pacetti Bay will visit their school on May 9th; those zoned for Sebastian will have their orientation visit on May 16th.

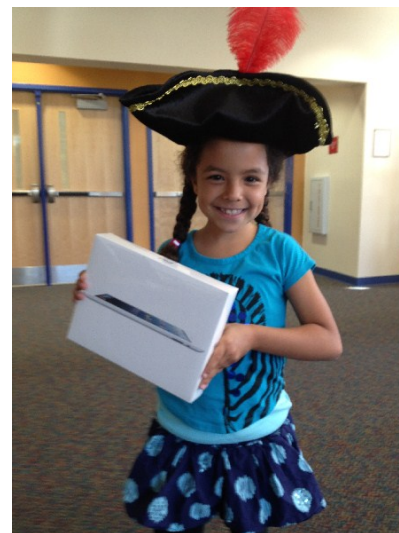
## Students in the News

- ◆ Congratulations to Bradley Elias who won \$100.00 (and a Spaghetti Dinner) from the Elks Lodge of St. Augustine for his Essay on *"What the National Anthem means to Me."*
- ◆ Kudos also to Eva Karjano, who was the only elementary student in the district chosen to perform on her violin at the Arts Alive Competition which will be held April 26th at Nease High School. Wow!
- ◆ Finally, "Job Well Done" to Bradley and Josh Elias for their fundraising venture: *Alex's Lemonade Stand*. This event generated \$1300.00 this year at the Palencia Street Fair, which will be donated to pediatric cancer research.

## BoosterThon Winner!

A big THANK YOU to all family and friends in our Palencia community to turned in their BoosterThon commitments by April 2nd. As promised, we raffled off a new iPad to one lucky student with all donations turned in by that date. Congratulations to **Ranya Benchaaboune** from Mrs. Beaulieu's class.

Don't forget, we will also be drawing for winners of 4 passes to Disney World and 4 tickets to the Alligator Farm from those students who bring in contributions to our Goodwill drive on April 9th! Send in those donations next Tuesday!





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Kasey Baker, Assistant Principal

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## PTO News Flash

The PTO extends a heartfelt thank you for your support of the Boosterthon. The students were thrilled earning their pledge laps to the sounds of Taylor Swift, One Direction and Owl City. We're overwhelmed by the many generous donations! As a result, PES earned over **\$23,000** which will benefit the playground campaign. We appreciate YOU very much!

### Save the Date!

#### Friday, April 12th- *PTO Business Sponsor Breakfast*

8:30am The PTO is delighted to have wonderful and generous business sponsors. We appreciate their supporting the PTO's mission to enrich the Palencia Elementary experience. A BIG thank you to all of them!

#### Thursday, May 2nd - *Spaghetti Dinner Night* \$7/person

5:30 pm-8:00 pm PES Family Dinner night is a student favorite. Your student will proudly show you her masterpiece displayed in the Art Show. Then, visit the Media Center and enjoy the convenience of the Book Fair to stock up on summer reading too. Turn in your reservation form by April 12th.

#### Sunday, May 19th - *Palencia Peanut Putter* at the World Golf Hall of Fame Putting Course \$5/person

3:00pm-6:00pm The last hurrah of the school year! Enjoy a family putting competition at the lovely, natural grass, 18 hole putting course. Turn in a completed score card and your child will earn a treat! A great way for the whole family to spend a lovely Sunday afternoon.

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