



December 13, 2023

THE PIRATE POST

Palencia Elementary School

MS. CATHERINE GOODRICH, PRINCIPAL

MS. THERESA COOPER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

MS. COURTNEY JOHNSON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday, December 21:
1 hour early dismissal

December 22-January 5:
Winter Break
Student/Teacher Holiday

Thursday, January 4 :
Teacher Planning Day

Friday, January 5:
Teacher Inservice Day/
Student Holiday

Monday, January 8:
Classes Resume for Students
Second Semester Begins

Wednesday, January 10:
PTO Meeting @8:40am

Monday, January 15:
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Student/Teacher Holiday

Friday, January 19:
Report Cards Issued

Season's Greetings, PES families!

School grades were released by Florida's Department of Education early this week. I am proud to say ALL of our staff helped ensure Palencia Elementary maintained "A school" status for the 22-23 school year. It goes without saying that our school community's high level of parent support is a significant factor when it comes to student success. I remain proud and grateful. Well done!

Students will complete the second quarter of the school year on Thursday, December 21st, prior to our break. If you foresee your child will be absent prior to this time, please be sure to connect with the teacher. We do not want for missed tests to negatively impact second quarter grades, as teachers are required to finalize report card grades when they return on January 4th. Thank you!

As I reflect on holidays past with my own boys (who are now in their 20s), it's clear that family experiences are remembered and valued so much more than the toys and gadgets. I remember putting myself through a lot of stress searching for whatever the coveted, trendy present of the year was for my boys. If I had it to do all over again, I would have spent even more time in conversation with them about the meaning behind the holiday celebrated and reinforcing their unique qualities as a person. I wish you all much love and peace over the break.

Together in Education,

Catherine Goodrich

Principal Palencia Elementary School

(904) 547-4010



DECEMBER 2023

FOR THE LOVE OF LITERACY

By Laurie Misch - Instructional Literacy Coach



PALENCIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School-Wide Spelling Bee Competition



SPELLING BEE FINALISTS JOSHUA DANIELS AND MADISON WISE PROUDLY POSE WITH PRINCIPAL CATHERINE GOODRICH.



PRINCIPAL CATHERINE GOODRICH CONGRATULATES SPELLING BEE CHAMPION MADISON WISE.



THE PES FINALISTS NERVOUSLY AWAIT THEIR TURN TO SHOW THEIR SPELLING TALENTS.

Eighteen talented fifth-grade spelling bee finalists nervously took the stage in the Palencia Elementary School cafeteria on Thursday, November 16, demonstrating an impressive ability to spell even the most challenging of words. These students had worked tirelessly to perfect their spelling skills and prepare to put their knowledge to the test in front of their teachers, parents, and classmates. Following nearly two hours of intense competition, Joshua Daniels and Madison Wise remained as competitors, correctly spelling multiple eighth-grade level words. Madison, a student in Ms. Morphew's homeroom class, ultimately claimed victory by spelling the word "avens" correctly in round 20.

Madison Wise will represent our PES Pirates and advance to the St. Johns County School District Spelling Bee, which will be held on Wednesday, December 13 at the First Coast Technical College in St. Augustine. We wish her the best of luck!

*avens: plants of a genus of perennial herbs with pinnate or lyrate leaves and flowers with long plumose persistent styles



Hello, Pirate Families!

My name is Gretchen Molina. I am so glad to be teaching music at Palencia Elementary School! I have really enjoyed meeting all the wonderful students and staff here. Everyone has been so welcoming and encouraging. My family and I recently moved to Palm Coast, Florida, after selling our lake home in Northern Wisconsin. We loved living on the lake, but it is, unfortunately, frozen for about 5 months of the year and we really don't like the cold weather or ice fishing. We have wanted to live somewhere that is warm, sunny, and snow-free with plenty of water and outdoor activities nearby, so that is how we chose Palm Coast. My husband and I have three children – two are in college and one is in 7th grade. We also have a mini-golden doodle. I love to sing, play the piano, and listen to all types of music. My favorite thing to do is spend time with my family - especially outdoors hiking, fishing, and sightseeing. We are loving Florida life so far!

I hold two degrees from the University of Wisconsin - Bachelor of Music Education and Bachelor of Science – Elementary Education. In Wisconsin, I taught elementary music, as well as middle and high school choir at a rural 4K-12 public school, where my own children attended. Though it was a very small school, I am proud to say that our music department was highly accomplished and well-known in the area for musical excellence and fun, memorable performances. Some of the highlights of my 9+ years of teaching there included directing five Broadway musicals (most recently Beauty and the Beast), preparing and directing many seasonal concerts and plays for all grades, preparing students to excel in music contests such as Solo and Ensemble and the WI Youth Harmony Festival - Barbershop Quartet Contest, and even organizing special performance trips for my high school choir to sing at Disney World! Some of my singers were invited to perform at the WI State Music Educators' Convention -- twice. My high school girls' treble barbershop quartet was named WYHF's State Champions in 2022 and 1st runners-up in 2023. I am proud of the music education that I provided students at my old school, and I am happy to continue my work here at Palencia. Having that unique position of teaching students from an early age through graduation helped me understand the importance of a high-quality music education during the elementary years. This type of educational environment helps nurture a love for music in everyday life as well as helps prepare students for musical opportunities in their futures.

Some of the things we have been working on here in the music classroom include singing using solfege, reading music notation and playing rhythms using various classroom instruments, learning about how to follow a music score, and lots more. Something I love about the music classroom here is that there are a lot of instruments for students to play. Several classes have recently had some fun playing rhythms on a non-traditional instrument – the bucket drum! I am looking forward to a fantastic rest of the school year here.

~Mrs. Molina





Congratulations to our Character Counts **Responsibility Pillar Recipients from October**

Kindergarten

Blake M.
Jake P.
Liana W.
Isabella C.
Wesley M.
Luke R.
Emryn S.

2nd Grade

Montanez M.
Gloria T.
Amiya B.
Cason N.
Keegan H.
Madelaine K.
Matteo B.
Harper C.
Avery D.
Eduardo A.R.
Samual H.
Tala A.
Caleb H.
Tristan C.

1st Grade

Brittney G.
Callyn W.
Meile M.
Lennon K.
Anabelle N.
Anabelle M.
Nils F.



Responsibility

Fulfill commitments and duties, assuming consequences from the decisions made. Persevere and always do your best. Use self-control and be self-disciplined. Be accountable for your own words, actions, and attitudes.



Congratulations to our Character Counts **Responsibility Pillar Recepients from October**

3rd Grade

Ajay A.
Harbor D.
Madelyn B.
David T.
Arianna H.
Raghav R.
Kera L.
Clayton A.
Victoria A.
Vivienne S.
Rory B.
Avery W.
Graham M.
Autumn C.
Blake H.

4th Grade

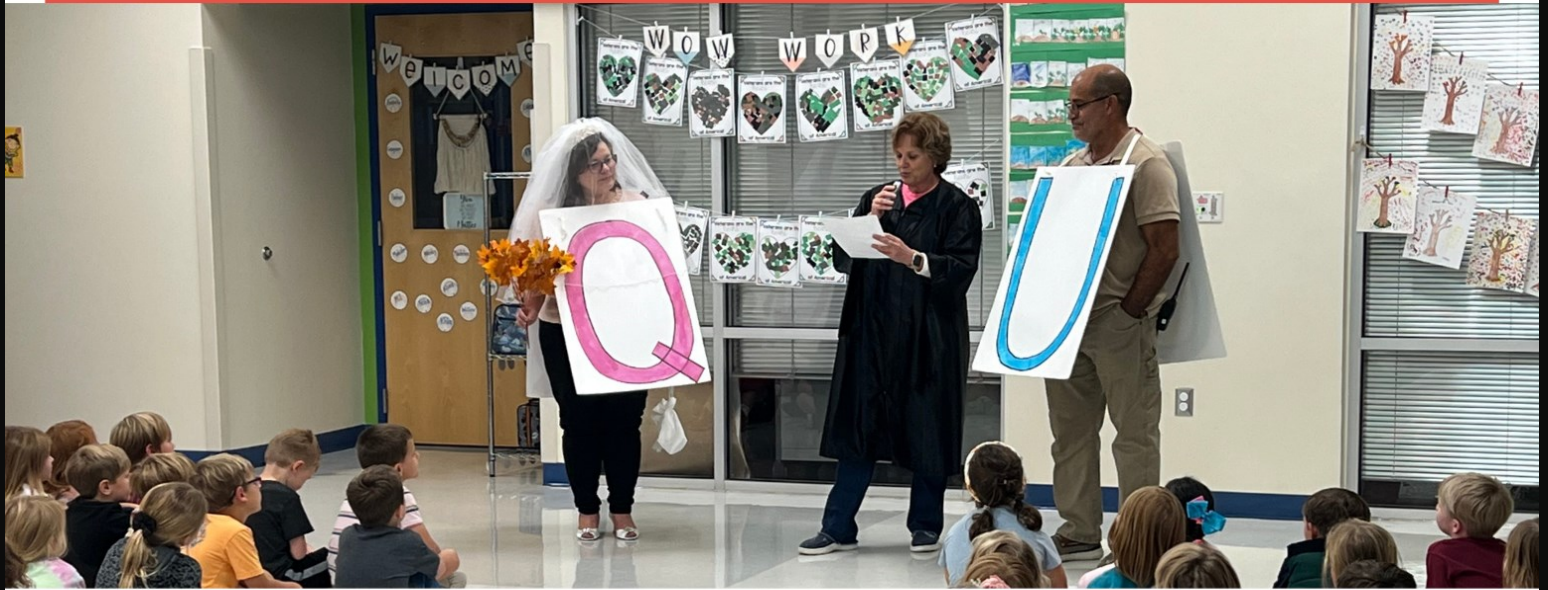
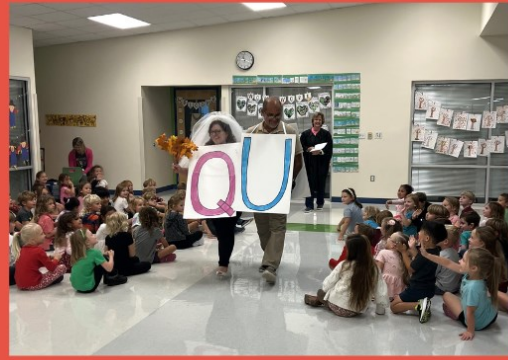
Grace T.
Hunter H.
Elizabeth M.
Luke J.
Emma D.
Amelia N.
Deklan M.
Violet E.
Willie S.
Eonel K.
Emalyn H.
Micah B.
Kenleigh H.

5th Grade

Jerrett L.
Harper W.
Kirk R.
Aidan H.
Audrey L.
Audrey D.
Ethan L.
Alinna G.
Lucas C.
Sruthi G.
Ryan A.

The Six Pillars of CharacterSM





THE WEDDING OF “Q” AND “U”

A Kindergarten Tale of Two Letters

Wedding bells rang throughout the kindergarten common area as our littlest pirates celebrated the joining of “Q” and “U” in a mock wedding.

Our young readers and spellers will forever have a memorable way to remember the spelling rule of the letters Q and U, understanding that Q is followed by U in almost all words.

This special event was celebrated with a dance reception enjoyed by all wedding guests. Thank you to all who were involved in this fun lesson!



Pirate Cove Media Center News

We are so grateful for the support from our Palencia Elementary families during the Fall Book Fair. We are able to purchase great new books for the Media Center and thanks to your generosity we were able to purchase items for our wonderful teachers from their wish lists!



Please be on the lookout for overdue book notices that may be delivered to your email. We currently have a large number of books that are overdue and need to be returned to the Media Center. We will be sending notices with increasing frequency in an effort to remind students to return overdue books.

After the winter break, overdue books checked out during the first semester will be marked "lost" on January 12, 2024 and a fine in the amount of the cost of the book will be assessed. **Please note: students with a fine on their account are not able to check out.**

Thank you so much for your help in keeping our Media Center organized! We appreciate it!



In the case that books are lost or damaged, please make payment via SchoolPay, send in a check payable to PES or exact change to satisfy the debt. We cannot make change. Refunds will not be issued in the event the book is found.

If the book is lost and a patron can find an identical, NEW, copy (hardcover must be replaced by hardcover, etc.) for a lesser cost from another vendor (such as Amazon or Barnes and Noble) that will also satisfy the fine.

11TH ANNUAL

CHARACTER COUNTS!

In St. Johns
County

6K 3K

RUN • WALK

Saturday, February 3, 2024
9 A.M.

Palencia Elementary School



Register by January 5, 2024, to receive a race t-shirt
and other goodies from sponsoring businesses
and community organizations!



PRESENTING
SPONSOR

REGISTER AT
[RACSMITH.COM](https://www.racesmith.com)



HAPPY Grandparents DAY





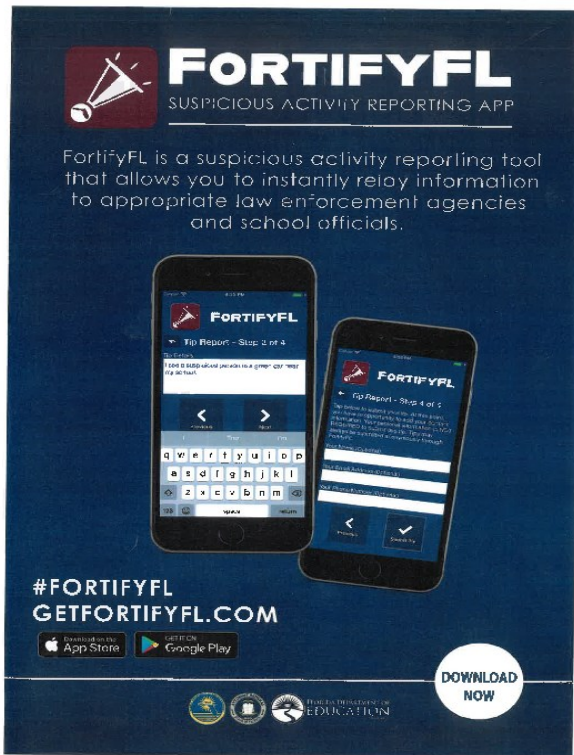




Give
Thanks



Pirates Need to Know...



FORTIFYFL
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

DOWNLOAD NOW

IMPORTANT WEBSITES AND LINKS

SJCSD Website

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us>

PES Website

<http://www-pes.stjohns.k12.fl.us>

PES PTO Website

<http://palenciapiratespto.com>

PES Attendance Policy

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/student/attendance/>

PES Attendance Form

<https://surveys.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>

How to Access the Family Portal



The Family Portal provides a central location for your student's assessment results.

The Family Portal can be used to

- access your student's results for FAST Progress Monitoring testing.
- access prior statewide assessment results.
- print score reports.

How can I access the Family Portal?

- At the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal: <https://flfast.org>
- Or at the direct link: <https://fl-familyportal.camblumast.com/>

What Information do I need to log in to the Family Portal?

- Your student's unique 6-digit access code (found in HAC under the Registration tab).
- Your student's date of birth.
- Your student's first name as it appears on their official school record.

What Information can I find on the Family Portal?

- Your student's results from Fall 2020 through present
- Your student's Individual Student Reports with interpretative guides.
- Glossary
- FAQs
- Performance Levels

Where do I get the Access Code?

The code can be found in the Home Access Center (HAC) under the Registration tab. The code will be located on the right side of the page under Additional Information.



PTO NEWS



Last month PES was happy to welcome Grandparents and Grandfriends into the school for the Grandparents Day celebrations. Over 600 visitors had the joy of sharing special time with their students around the school and in classrooms. Our teachers welcomed their grandvisitors and made the event memorable for them and the kids.

Thank you to everyone who visited, volunteered and supported this event. Students and staff will remember the special memories made and wisdom shared everyday in the cafeteria. Grandvisitors and students contributed to a wonderful display that Ms. Gordon put together.

PALENCIA PIRATES PTO
invites you to join us for

Family BINGO Night



Thursday, January 25th, 2024
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm, PES Cafeteria
FREE to PLAY

With Captain Goodrich as our Bingo caller,
bring your Pirate crew for a fun weeknight evening
of Bingo with game prizes for our students.
Bottled waters and cookies
will be provided while supplies last.




SCAN ME

Join Palencia Elementary for their
Spirit Night with the Icemen on
Saturday, January 13th at 7:00pm!

\$5 of each ticket purchased through
the link below will be donated back
to Palencia Elementary School!

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT:
www.jaxicemen.com/palenciaelementary23

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:
Gerry Brown – Account Executive
Phone: 407-758-8713



PALENCIA PIRATES PTO **BOUNTIFUL SUNDAYS** **YOUR PIE** SAINT AUGUSTINE

3rd Sunday of every month

PROCEEDS FROM SALES GO DIRECTLY BACK TO THE PES PTO PIRATE'S BOUNTY PROGRAM

Pirate's Bounty



clothing | food | essential items
for Students In Need



SCAN ME

All donations fund food bags, clothing, and other necessities for PES students in need. To sponsor a child it costs \$33 a month | \$150 half-year | \$300 whole year. Any \$\$ amount is appreciated!

Your Donation Matters

Bountiful Sunday:
Sunday December 17th ALL DAY
PTO Meeting:
Wednesday, January 10th @8:40am

PALENCIA PIRATES PTO

Art rocks > Birthdays rock > Music rocks
Pirates Rock > Schools rock > Sports rock >
Students rock > Teachers rock

RESERVE THE ROCKS




STEP 1: SCAN here to book the rock or visit
palenciapiratespto.com

Bryce Brushworks
202.590.6759
jessica@brycebrushworks.com

STEP 2: contact Jessica for rates & availability



ORLANDO
MATH CIRCLE'S

ST. AUGUSTINE

NEW OMC CHAPTER!

initiated by one of our high school students

WE WILL DO MATH OLYMPIAD PRACTICE

on the following dates

2023

September 30 from 1 PM to 3PM
October 28th from 10 AM to 12 PM
November 18th from 1 PM to 3 PM
December 16th from 1 PM to 3 PM

2024

January 27th Time TBD
February 24th TIME TBD
March 23rd TIME TBD

ST. AUGUSTINE LIBRARY -
SOUTHEAST BRANCH

6670 US-1, St. Augustine, FL 32086

Contact matthew_j@orlandomathcircle.org for more
information





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