



January 29, 2026

THE PIRATE POST

Palencia Elementary School

Ms. Catherine Goodrich, Principal

Ms. Theresa Cooper, Assistant Principal

THE CAPTAIN'S LOG



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, February 2:
SAC meeting @4:00pm
Media Center**

**Tuesday, February 10:
PTO meeting @8:40am
Interims Issued**

**Friday, February 13:
Teacher-In-Service Day
Student Holiday**

**Monday, February 16:
Presidents' Day
Student/teacher Holiday**



Hello PES families,

Happy 2026! I hope each of you had a remarkable holiday season and are feeling confident about your personal goals for the year ahead.

The second nine-weeks report cards were available on January 15th. Have you had an opportunity to review your child's grades with him/her yet? Entering the third nine-week period of the school year is special and enjoyable, because teachers and students are now established and comfortable within their "class families". The students know this year's teacher(s) expectations, they know that their teachers care, and they feel prideful when they reflect on how they've grown academically since August. (Psst – Parents, if you have not done so already, be sure to point this growth and achievement out to your little one as you review report cards together.) This all sets the stage for the final two "acts", if you will, of the school year. This is a critically important time of the school year. Increasingly difficult academic standards are introduced, and previously taught academic standards are solidified. This is also the time of year I ask teachers to identify any student who may be in jeopardy of being retained for the 26-27 school year. If, in the weeks ahead, your student is identified, the teacher will contact you directly for a conference. There is still time for school and home to work together to develop a plan to remediate deficiencies during the remaining four months of this school year.

That said, January is historically referred to as "cold and flu season". Please continue to remind your children about the importance of handwashing, eating nutritious foods, and getting a good night's sleep. As a school, we have increased cleaning protocols and are sensitive to the fact that student illness ends up meaning missed days of school. Be sure to connect with your child's teacher to ensure there is a plan for make up work and make up testing. Your student's success and being caught up is important to us!

While we are talking about school absences, I respectfully ask that every effort be made to plan family vacations during school holidays to avoid students missing school. Each day of school is significant, and it is simply not possible to replicate in-person instruction from one of our teachers, through a worksheet packet sent home. (Did you know there is a 4-day weekend in February and spring break week is only a month behind that? Yay!)

There is a lot happening at PES. Keep reading!

Together in Education,

Catherine Goodrich
Principal
Palencia Elementary School
(904) 547-4010

Palencia Elementary School

Front Desk

Label Student Belongings:

Please make sure your student has all belongings clearly labeled, including:

- Jackets 
- Water bottles 
- Lunch boxes 
- Book bags 

🌐 Stay Connected:

Visit the Palencia Elementary School Website for upcoming events and important updates.

New information is posted regularly, and you can also find details on how to reserve the rock.

 www-pes.stjohns.k12.fl.us

📲 ParentSquare:

If you have not downloaded the App ParentSquare, please do so as soon as possible. ParentSquare is used for items such as newsletters, snow day notifications, group chats, calendars, report cards, volunteer sign-ups and more. ParentSquare is now used for districtwide newsletters and announcements along with two-way communication.

 www.parentsquare.com/signin

🚌 Transportation Changes:

Transportation changes must be submitted

- **Before 2:00 PM – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**
- **Before 1:00 PM – Wednesdays**

⌚ Early Dismissal Check-Out:

Early dismissal check-outs must be completed

- **Before 2:15 PM – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**
- **Before 1:15 PM – Wednesdays**

 Thank you for helping us keep our Pirates safe and organized!

Nicole Holland
Front Desk Clerk



♪ Nurse's Corner: Staying Healthy & Warm

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we move through the winter months, we are seeing a significant increase in flu-like illnesses among both our students and our staff. To keep our classrooms healthy and our doors open, we need your partnership in monitoring your child's health daily.

❗ Health & Safety First

We understand that missed work and disrupted schedules are difficult, but sending a child to school who is "under the weather" puts our entire school community—including teachers and high-risk students—at risk. Please keep your child home if they are exhibiting: high fever or chills; any rash that is open and not healing; a persistent cough or sore throat; unusual fatigue or body aches; vomiting or diarrhea.

Please find our official Illness Guidelines on the school website under the departments and health clinic tab. These outline specific symptoms and the required "wait times" (such as being fever-free without medication for 24 hours) before your child can safely return to class.

🧥 Winter Weather Reminder

The temperatures have dropped, but we still aim to get the students outside for fresh air and movement whenever possible. We have noticed many students arriving without adequate winter gear. To keep your child comfortable and warm during recess and transitions, please ensure they come to school with: A heavy winter coat. Gloves or mittens. A hat or hood. Appropriate footwear.

If you need assistance with winter clothing, please contact the school counselor, Lindsey Taylor, at 904-547-4010.

Thank you for helping us keep our school a healthy place to learn!

Stay well,

Nurse Shaye :)





Welcome back Pirates!

Happy New year to you all! I hope that you enjoyed your much deserved break! It has been brought to my attention that during drop off and pick up times there are multiple vehicles attempting to make a left turn out of the parking lot into the neighborhood. While I know that this is convenient and is where a large percentage of our students live, it is causing a jam in the parking lot therefore, prolonging drop off and pick up procedures.

Please adhere to the signage posted at the exit of the parking lot and be advised that left turns are prohibited during the following times:

Monday – Friday 8:00am -8:30am

Wednesday – 1:45pm-2:20pm

Monday – Friday 2:45pm- 3:20pm

Thank you all so much for your assistance in this matter! Always remember, the safety of our school is a collaborative effort. My door is always open for any concerns you may have. Always remember, if you see something say something. Have a great year Pirates!

Sailing safely,
Deputy Cicero
Palencia Elementary School
Office| 904-547-4034



Counselor Corner

JANUARY 2026

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back everyone! I hope your winter break was filled with rest, fun, and time with loved ones. As we jump into the new year, this is a great moment for students to reset, refocus, and remember that every day is a chance to learn, grow, and implement our character traits.

In guidance class this month, Kindergarten and 1st Grade students are beginning the Lauren's Kids safety lessons, approved by our district. These age-appropriate lessons help students learn about personal safety, body boundaries, and how to seek help from trusted adults.

Looking forward to a great second half of the school year! If you have any questions or need support and resources, please reach out!



CONTACT INFO

Email:
lindsey.g.taylor@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Phone: 904-547-4010

PAST AND UPCOMING EVENTS

October was Red Ribbon Week



Back in October, we discussed healthy living and being responsible for our choices. All of the students made puzzle pieces to go along with the theme this year of "Life is a Puzzle: Solve it Through Healthy Living.

National School Counselor Week



National School Counselor Week is February 2 - 6. The theme this year is "School Counselors Amplify Student Success." During this week, students will hear about how to amplify their academic, social, and personal success.

PTO NEWS



UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

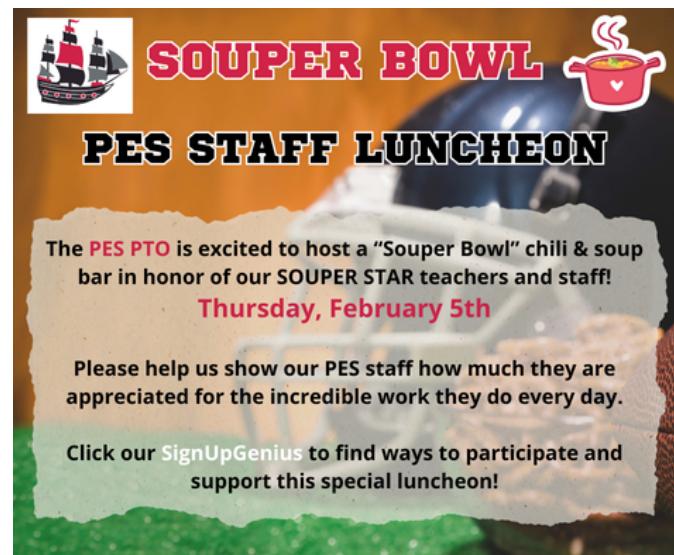
TH 02-05-26 Souper Bowl

T 02-10-26 PTO Meeting

W 03-04-26 Family Bingo Night



With Captain Goodrich as our Bingo caller, bring your Pirate crew for a fun weeknight evening of Bingo with game prizes for our students.



The PTO Hospitality Team created a warm and welcoming restock setup for our teachers, thoughtfully arranged with classroom essentials and treats. Teachers were invited to select items to take back to their classrooms, including cleaning supplies, tissues, snacks, and everyday necessities. This gesture reflects the deep appreciation our PTO has for our teachers—and the gratitude felt in return for all they do each day.





PALENCIA
ELEMENTARY
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

Your Donation Matters

Pirate's Bounty



clothing | food | essential items

for Students In Need



All donations fund food bags,

clothing, and other necessities for
Palencia Elementary School students in need.

To sponsor a child it costs
\$33 a month | \$150 half-year | \$300 whole year

Any \$\$ amount is appreciated!



AHOY, PALENCIA PIRATES!



IT'S TIME TO ORDER
SPIRITWEAR FOR THE
2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR!
SCAN HERE TO SHOP
HIGH-QUALITY STYLES
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Scan here



EVERY ORDER SUPPORTS THE
PALENCIA ELEMENTARY PTO!

We would love to see you at our shop:
5150 Palm Valley Road, Suite 200,
Ponte Vedra Beach

FOLD-FLAT COUNT-DOWN
G★B
Athletics The GIFTED
BOUTIQUE
A DIVISION OF THE GIFTED BOUTIQUE


Palencia Elementary

SIGN UP FOR PTO TODAY!



Boosterthon



Mother Son
Event



Daddy Daughter
Event



Hospitality
Team



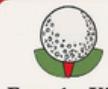
Communications
Team



Be the Change
Sea Turtle



Online
Auction



Fore the Kids
Golf Tournament



Grandparents
Day

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

For more info contact:
Brooke Paarlberg - (904) 495-8411
pes.ptovpofevents@gmail.com



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THANK YOU TO OUR
CORPORATE SPONSORS

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JOLLY ROGER LEVEL



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ABA THERAPY & SUPPORT SERVICES

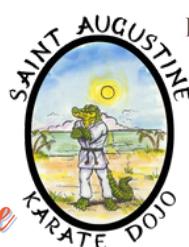


BLACKJACK LEVEL



TIFFANY CURTNER
NE Florida Realtor

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