THE ORBITER
Volume 3, Issue 5
January 1, 2011

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the administration, faculty and staff, we wish you a Happy New Year. We hope your Winter Break was filled with wonderful moments and memories with family. We know that our school will continue to shine in 2011. It is an honor to work with your children, and your continued support is appreciated. Please look for information regarding middle school classroom activities, exam schedule, and Science Fair, Spelling Bee, History Fair, and upcoming PTO sponsored events. Welcome Back!

Debra Snyder, Principal

Citizen of the Month

The Citizenship Award will be given to one student in each class in grades K-5 and one per homeroom class in grades 6-8. These students were selected based on Palm Pointe’s School-wide Rules:

- Take Responsibility
- Engage in Your Learning
- Act Respectfully
- Make Safe Choices

December Citizens of the Month

Kindergarten: Max Quintana, Gage Newman, Collin Kugele, Hunter Hoyt, Alexander Ridgely, Logan Kerr, Abel Craver, DeShawn King

1st Grade: Dylan Grothe, Sameer Iqbal, Erik Bustamante, Christopher Cayton, Teniah Jackson, Alyssa Dwyer

2nd Grade: Alexander Antonakas, Taylor Cecilio, Jared Birch, Isaac Ferraz, Emma Allen, Alexandra Coutret, Braeden Mahieu, Cynthia Daniel

3rd Grade: Sarah Wouters, Jayden Dukes, Jacob Barron, Farah Imran, Benjamin Miller, Joseph Lettera, Natalie Ruppert, Maria Prussing, Jordan Cuff

4th Grade: Mark Allen, Carly Cecilio, Marilyn Rancel, Alex Boulais, Tiffany Coronel, Annalisa Albert, Kyra DeVito, Anthony Solis, Madeline Grochowski

5th Grade: Sarah Angelina Baptiste, Tatiana Williamson, Guadalupe Novoa, Jordi Munoz, John Diaz, Gregory Schafer, Ricky Paez, Savannah Williams

6th Grade: Kiersten Berger, Savannah Cymbal, Christopher Purcell, Garrett Green, Madison Heisey, Nicholas Spada, Katlyn McCue, Juan Mejia, Jesse Jean-Baptiste, Kylee Patterson-Deurer, Liam Martinez

7th Grade: Ernie Dellarocca, Estella Mejia-Martinez, Shane Geiser, Shane McAuliffe, Nicholas Colangelo, Brent McFarland

8th Grade: Samantha Ruo, Jacob Palifroni, Brianna Lopez, Malik Rigg, Amber Schwartz, Puja Patel, Jazmin Diesslin, Shannon Johannes, Emily Watakiewicz, Kim Anderson

School Report Card

The Florida Department of Education publishes an annual report card on the progress of our district and schools. The report includes information on:

- Number of Students enrolled;
- Ready to start school rate;
- Graduation rate and preparation for education after high school;
- Results on state tests in reading, writing, mathematics and science;
- Results on national tests;
- School safety and environment;
- Qualifications, education and experience of teachers and staff;
- School grades; and
- Adequate Yearly Progress

The information is available at http://doeweb-prd doe.state.fl.us/edu/nclbpar/index.cfm or Palm Pointe’s website http://tradition.fau.edu. Also, you may contact the Palm Pointe office at 772-345-3245 to request a copy of the report.

Parent Involvement Plan

Palm Pointe’s Parent Involvement Plan is located on our website. It explains parent involvement activities for the 2010-11 school year. For those of you interested in a hard copy, please contact the front office at 772-345-3245.

Parent Information and Resource Center

Please review the attached information about the Florida PTOC’s. The link is also available on our website.

PTO News

A BIG THANK YOU to our volunteers, business partners, and Palm Pointe families who made both the Holiday Shoppe and the Annual Yard Sale a great success. Many students enjoyed the independent and educational experience of shopping at the Holiday Shoppe. The Yard Sale was ‘sold out’ with a wonderful turnout from the community.

Planning stages are underway for more PTO sponsored activities, so watch for the PTO newsletter, Blast Off, on goldenrod paper. The next PTO General Meeting is scheduled for January 12th at 8:30 a.m. in the Launch Pad.

Please keep collecting those Box Tops, Campbell UPC’s and inkjet cartridges. As always, we thank you!

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 – 4:45 pm

Supervision

There is no supervision before 9:15 each day. Please allow your children to remain in your car until this time. Our school begins at 9:40 am

Communication

Monthly parent newsletters will be sent home at the beginning of each month starting in September. A monthly calendar will be included with the newsletter. Newsletters and calendars will also be available to view on our website.

Tardy Students and Early Pick Up

We guard instructional time. Every time a child enters late or is picked up early, not only does it disrupt their education, but the teacher and entire class. Please continue to refrain from having your child arrive late or from picking him/her up early. Please be reminded that 5 tardies or 5 early pick ups in a nine week period will result in 1 unexcused absence. Thank you for your assistance with this very important matter. Remember, no changes in dismissal may be made after 3:30pm each day.

PTO News

Mark your calendar now!

FCAT Writing Grade 4-8 March 1-3
FCAT Math Grade 3-8 April 11-22
FCAT Reading Grade 3-8 April 11-22
FCAT Science Grade 3-8 April 11-22

This year a new version of FCAT (FCAT 2.0) which will test NGSSS (Next Generation Sunshine State Standard) will be administered. Information test as well as new standards are listed on the DOE website.

New State Wide Assessment (FCAT 2.0)

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<td><strong>Collection of clothing for Uniform Exchange 3-14</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student Holiday</strong></td>
<td><strong>PTO Board Meeting 9:45 1st Gr. Field Trip Manatee Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>1st Gr. Field Trip Manatee Center</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PTO General Meeting 8:30</strong></td>
<td><strong>Progress Reports Go Home Rocket Store 1,4,MS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PTO Fundraiser Jan 11-25 Coupon Cards</strong></td>
<td><strong>PTO General Meeting 8:30</strong></td>
<td><strong>Progress Reports Go Home Rocket Store 1,4,MS</strong></td>
<td><strong>End of Semester Early Release Day Parent Uniform Exchange (9.3 pm)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Teacher Workday/Student Holiday Four County Honor Band</strong></td>
<td><strong>TCUS 3:00 pm Rocket Store K,2,3,5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Four County Honor Band</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Benchmark #2 Jan. 18-20</strong></td>
<td><strong>Martin Luther King Holiday (Holiday for All)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Four County Honor Band</strong></td>
<td><strong>End of Semester Early Release Day Parent Uniform Exchange (9.3 pm)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Citizen of the Month 10:00 am 5th Gr. Field Trip Oxbow Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tornado Drill 10:00 am SAC 8:30 5th Gr. Field Trip Oxbow Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>5th Gr. Field Trip Oxbow Center Schoolwide Spelling Bee 9:45 &amp; 2:30 Rocket Store K, 2,3,5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rocket Store 1,4,MS</strong></td>
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### COLD WEATHER REMINDER
As we approach the cooler months please assist our Rockets to adhere to the Cold Weather Clause as outlined below.

**When the temperature falls 50° or below K-5 students may wear dress code jeans, slacks or school approved skirt with leggings under in school colors.**

**Outerwear**
Properly fitting cardigans, sweatshirts, sweaters and pullovers in gold blue, gray, white, black and tan are allowed. Small prints in those colors will be permitted. All others will not be permitted while in the school building.

**Spirit Shirts**
Please remember Spirit Shirts may be worn on Friday only. PE uniforms are part of the spirit day dress code. Shirts are available in the office.

### Dress Code
Thank you for supporting our “Dress for Success” for students. They look fabulous. Remember dress code guidelines are outlined in the student handbook and on our website.

### Progress Report
Beginning in November, printed copies of Progress Report will be provided every 3 week to those of you requesting hard copies. We strongly encourage all of you with internet access at home or work to use Skyward where grades are always current. Even if you do not have personal access you can visit the public libraries or Palm Pointe to gain access to keep current with your child’s progress.

Accessing Skyward:
Go to [www.stlucie.k12.fl.us](http://www.stlucie.k12.fl.us)
1. Click on the parent/student tab
2. On the left hit the link Skyward Family Access
3. On the login screen enter your child’s 56 number (10 digits long)
4. The password is your child’s lunch number
Now you are in. Please feel free to browse around.

### Afternoon Pick Up
We dismiss approximately 800 students daily in cars or walking home. For those of you walking to pick up your children please wait in front of the office (in the area before the flagpole). Parents are not permitted to walk through areas designated for car pick up. Your cooperation will eliminate additional traffic in areas reserved for car pick-up and drop off. The safety of our Rockets during the dismissal process is of great importance. Thank you for your assistance.

**Spirit Shirts are available for $10.00 in the Front office. Students may wear any Palm Pointe T-Shirt on Spirit Day.**