

THE ORBITER

Volume 7, Issue 6

January 1, 2015

PALM POINTE EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SCHOOL
@ TRADITION FAU/SLCSD PARTNERSHIP
10680 ACADEMIC WAY, PORT ST LUCIE, FL 34987
(772) 345-3245Ph (772) 345-3250 Fax
Website: www.tradition.fau.edu.com
or www.stlucie.k12.fl.us

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 – 4:45pm

Supervision

There is no supervision before 9:20 each day. Please allow your children to remain in your car until this time. Our school begins at 9:40 am

Principal's Corner

On behalf of the administration, faculty and staff, we wish you a Happy Holiday. We hope your Winter Break is filled with wonderful moments and memories with family and friends. We know that our school will continue to shine in 2015. It is an honor to work with your children, and your continued support is appreciated. See you in 2015.

Debra Snyder, Principal

PTO News

A huge "Thank You" to all the amazing volunteers who worked so hard in the Holiday Shoppe so our kids could have an enjoyable experience. We also thank all the families who continue to turn in your neatly trimmed Box Tops. Our next contest deadline is February 20. Your class may be the lucky winner. Remember, Labels for Education are needed as well.

Take a break from all that holiday cooking and join us at **Guys Burgers & Fries** in St. Lucie West on January 21 from 4:00-9:00. Tell them you are with Palm Pointe.

Dear Palm Pointe Families:

Although news reports state that our economy is stabilizing, many of us in Port Saint Lucie are still struggling. If your family is currently going through a significant transition phase, please do not hesitate to call Palm Pointe and ask to speak with the guidance department. What is considered a significant transition phase? Let's say you and your children are (a) sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason, (b) living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or campground due to the lack of alternative accommodations, (c) living in an emergency or transitional shelter, (d) living in a car, park, public space, or substandard housing, (e) living in a place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation, or (f) were caring for a child without legal custody due to the absence of the parent and because without your care and shelter the child would have no place to go. If any of the situations above apply to you and your family, please call 772-345-3274. We can assist with transportation, clothing and other supplies.

Mark Your Calendar

On Early Release day's school ends at 2:10pm. The dates for the year are as follows:
1/28, 2/25, 3/25, 4/29, 5/20, 6/2, 6/3

REGISTRATION 2015-2016

The registration deadline is fast approaching. Registration for the 2015-2016 school year is now open. The application window will close on **January 31, 2015.**

Please remind your family and friends to register before the deadline.

Cold Weather Clause

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

Dress Code Outerwear

Properly fitting cardigans, sweatshirts, sweaters and pullovers in solid 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.

STEM & Science Fair

All students in grades 6-8 participated in the Science Fair this year. Middle school students had their first opportunity to complete a S.T.E.M. (Science Technology Engineering Math) based project and be able to compete to take their new invention or improvement to our school and district fair. Fifty-seven students were selected to compete in this year's school based fair and expo. We had a total of ten categories and the following individuals were chosen as the top competitors in each of their respective categories! Congratulations, Rockets!

Earth Science: Tyler Edwards

Chemistry: Ellyn Delano, Taylor Milton, Jackson Martin, and Maria Prussing

Physics and Astronomy: Lucian Beaubrun, Ty Dargis, Madeline Grohowski, and Cole Ehrsam

Engineering: Material and Bioengineering: Isabella Nazario-Colon, Lauryn Beard, Justin Cruz, and Shannon Habyan

Engineering: Electrical and Mechanical: Erin Ageeb, Carly Bentel, David Ferguson, and Tatiana Philogene

Plant Sciences: Harlem Lilly, Ryan Busby, Coral Ferris-Merendino, and Taylor Bentel

Animal Science: Caroline Enoch

Math: Bryanna Vincens

Environmental Sciences: Tiana Qubain

Energy and Transportation: Sarah Wouters, Jacqueline Jaimes, Jayden Baker, and Alexander Gust

Palm Pointe Parents and Guardians!
Palm Pointe's Cafeteria also offers following

"No Hassle"
"BIRTHDAY BASH" PACKAGES
for your child(ren):

You can choose from the following options:
1 cupcake & 4 oz. juice for
75¢ - p/child

Or 1 ice-cream & small water for \$1.00 – p/child

Or a "GIANT" chocolate chip cookie for \$15.00 ea. – 16 srvgs.
p/cookie – juices are an additional .50¢ p/child.

BIRTHDAY BOY OR GIRL WILL ALSO RECEIVE A BIRTHDAY HAT!!!

If you would like to schedule your child's special "Birthday Bash", simply call, Della Myerez @ 345-3254 and we can discuss the options available and total cost. Leave the work to us!

Your child will receive his/her birthday bash during their regularly scheduled lunch period.

Citizen of the Month

The Citizenship Award is given to one student in each class in grades K-5 and one student per homeroom class in grades 6-8. Elective and resource teachers also choose a student each month. These students were selected based on Palm Pointe's School-wide Rules:

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

Dates and Times for Citizen of the Month Award

Ceremonies:

1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/22, 5/13

All assemblies are at 10:00am in the Auditoria. Parents & family members can report directly to the Auditoria. Congratulations to all!

December Citizens of the Month

Due to the short month, there will be no Citizen of the Month ceremony.

*Our next ceremony to recognize our outstanding citizens, will be **January 21, 2015.***

Counselor Corner

The *Florida School Counselor Association's* website is a great resource for parents. It provides information on bullying, dealing with a crisis, college and career planning, special needs, parenting tips, appropriate use of the internet, test anxiety, transition to middle school as well as an online-bookstore. Please check out this amazing resource. <http://www.flaschoolcounselor.org>

ESOL News

Colorin Colorado! is an extremely helpful bilingual resource for families of English Language Learners. Here, you will find tips on helping your child become a better reader, common core standards, language acquisition, homework help, as well as a variety of other topics to help you to help your child be successful in school. <http://www.colorincolorado.org/>

Math over the Break

Please practice basic math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) during the holiday break. www.vmathlive.com is a website that will motivate students to practice grade level math skills in grades 2-8.

Reading over the Break

Over an extended break from school, it is important for your child to keep reading to continue to build stamina and background knowledge. Set an attainable reading goal, such as read 15 to 30 minutes 5 times a week, to complete before we come back to school and set a reward. When the goal is met you can enjoy the reward together! Happy reading!!!

We are more than halfway through our Reading Takes You Places Challenge for Quarter 2. We are asking students to read 30 minutes each night. Research proves that increased time reading improves comprehension, vocabulary, and performance on assessments. Students are earning raffle tickets each week for participating. We had our first raffle drawing for prizes like free books, a chance to be on the morning announcements, or a special lunch time. Please encourage your children to keep reading and enjoy reading time together. Choose a book to read with your child over the break! See where reading takes you!

Exceeding Expectations
 East Coast Technical Assistance Center (ECTAC) identified Palm Pointe as a Title I school across the state of Florida that is exceeding expectations in improving student achievement. For more information on ECTAC and the Exceeding Expectation Project, you can visit the website at <http://www.ectacfl.net>.
 A team of school and district level peers from ECTAC members will visit Palm Pointe on January 8, 2015. Teams will observe classrooms and talk to leadership, teachers, staff and students about our educational practices. At the completion of their visit, a determination will be made if our school has meet the Award School status. This is a very prestigious award and Palm Pointe is very deserving. We are looking forward to the visit and showcasing our excellent teachers and wonderful students.

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
20 minutes per day.	5 minutes per day.	1 minute per day.
3,600 minutes per school year.	900 minutes per school year.	180 minutes per school year.
1,500,000 words per year.	282,000 words per year.	8,000 words per year.

◆ Scores in the 90th percentile on standardized tests ◆ Scores in the 50th percentile on standardized tests ◆ Scores in the 10th percentile on standardized tests

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 2.

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

How common is head lice?
 Head lice are parasites that are found on human heads and has been common among humans for hundreds of years. They are found in almost all countries and climates around the world. Head lice infection is very common, it has been estimated that up to one in every 10 children in school acquires head lice at some time. Head lice is spread by personal contact or the sharing of combs, brushes, caps, and other clothing. So it is easy to transmit head lice from one person to another. Please take time, on a routine basis, to check your child's head.
 Thank you for your time and effort in helping to keep our students in school.

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Winter Break	2 12 Month Employees Work	3
4	5 Student Holiday	6 Student Holiday	7 Students Return PTO General 8:50 am PTO Board 9:30 am F4	8 Exceeding Expectations Visit (Entire School Tour) 8:45 am-3:30 pm A5	9 End of 2nd Nine Weeks/First Semester B1	10
11	12 Gr. 6-8 History Fair Projects Due C2	13 5th Gr Field Trip-Oxbow Center-Joie 9:45 am D3	14 5th Gr Field Trip-Oxbow Center-Snyder & Wellbrock 9:45 am Guidance Tour for potential new students @ 2:00 pm E4	15 5th Gr. Field Trip-Oxbow Center-Patton & Herrera 9:45 am Fire Drill 10:30 am Gr. 3-5 Parent Academy 5:30-6:30 pm- Audeteria • Developing Scientific Thinking F5	16 PBS: Mismatch Day (5 Rocket Fuel) A1	17
18	19 Holiday For All MLK Day	20 B2	21 SAC 8:30 am Citizen of the Month 10:00 am PTO Family Night Out @ Five Guys in SLW 4:00-9:00 pm C3	22 IRSC Four County Honor Band Rehearsal 6-9 pm @ IRSC (identified students only) D4	23 IRSC Four County Honor Band Rehearsal 1-8 pm @ IRSC Gr. 5 Science Project Due E5	24 IRSC Four County Honor Band Rehearsal noon-4pm/MS and Jazz concert @ 6 pm
25	26 Report Cards Go Home Gr. 6-8 History Fair Judging 1/26-1/30 F1	27 A2	28 Early Release-Students released 2 hours early B3	29 SLC STEM Fair Project Citizen @ IRCC Information Highway 9:30-10:30 am • Gr. 3 Parents – Everything you need about standardized testing 5th Gr Field Trip-Oxbow Center-Rich & Van Allen 9:45 am C4	30 \$1.00 No Dress Code to Relay for Life District STEM Fair K-2 Parent Success Skills Workshop 9:30-10:30 am D5	31