

THE ORBITER

Volume 3

May/June 2010

PALM POINTE EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SCHOOL
@ TRADITION FAU/SLCSD PARTNERSHIP
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Celebrations and Congratulations

Newsletters and Calendars are also available on the website

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that the 2009/2010 school year is coming to a close. The following are some very important end of year celebrations here at Palm Pointe.

Thursday, May 27

9:45am Kindergarten Pinning Morlock, Kenefick & Campbell
10:30am Kindergarten Pinning Rudzinski & Johnson

Friday, May 28

9:45am Kindergarten Pinning Soumoff & Henderson
10:30am Kindergarten Pinning Lloyd, deGraaff & T. Miller

Friday, June 4

10:00am Grade 5 Moving Up
1:30pm Grade 8 Celebration

Monday, June 7-Thursday, June 10 Early Release
Friday, June 11 Early Release & Last Day for Students

As always, thank you for your continued support.

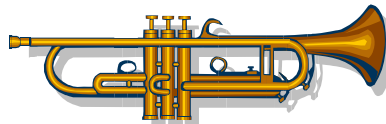
Sincerely,

Debra Snyder, Principal

Festival Band District 13 Middle School Concert

We are so proud to announce that our Palm Pointe Rocket Band received an overall score of EXCELLENT during the recent FBA District 13 Middle School Concert held at St Lucie West Centennial. A special thank you to the commitment and exceptional leadership of our Band Director, **Jason Hatfield**. Also, to the following students who participated.

Jayde Alvarez, Kira Anderson, Pedro Araujo, Kassandra Ayala, Reniece Baker, Bridgette Betancourt, Julian Cassinari, Vanessa Collazos, Frances De Leon-Rodriguez, Joseph Dorrington, Danielle Dubreus, Ryan Duffy, Shannon Ferguson, Ashley Fielder, Aliah Fleury, Amanda Grohowski, Austin Havee, Matthew Henik, Joshua Hinojosa, Connor Johannes, Taylor Jones, Shanice King, Antoine Knight, Courtney Lee, Michael Magrann, Chandler Martin, Jordan Martin, Alicia Medina, Megan Molner, Gabrielle Morris, Michael Moya, Emily Munoz, Logan Orr, Abdiel Perez, Arianna Ramos, Krista Ramsingh, Marc Anthony Sierra, Pauletta Thomas, Celleigh Walker-Vinces, Amber Wisniewski, Patrick Witt



Staff Appreciation

Palm Pointe will honor and celebrate the dedication of our outstanding faculty and staff during the week of May 3-7. PTO, Student Council and the Administration have planned many special events. If you have a chance, please take a moment to have your child or yourself say Thank You to the fabulous staff during this special week.

★ LOST and FOUND ★

It is now located in the front office. Please encourage your child to come and look for any missing items. Also, please write your child's first and last name on their personal items. All items currently in lost and found must be claimed by the last day of school June 11th.

Any items that remain unclaimed will be donated to a local charity.

Kindergarten Blastoff

We are so excited to see the faces of our newest Rockets as the acceptance process has begun for the 2010/11 school year! An orientation has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 18.

4:00pm – 6:00pm Office opened for registration

6:00pm – 6:30pm Tour kindergarten classroom

6:30pm - 7:30pm General Meeting

We will also have extended office hours from 4:30-6:00pm on the following days.

Wednesday, May 5

Monday, May 10

YEAR BOOK

Pre-sale for yearbook is over. Yearbooks will be available when they arrive in May.

April Citizens of the Month Congratulations

Kindergarten: Tori Famularo, Amber DeHaven, Cristian Azcona, Isabella Pisciotta, Victoria Sierra, Hayden Tate, Kayla Castano

Multi-Age Class: Alissa D'Aquila, Jasmine Gamez

1st Grade: Carlos Serrano, LaMar Freckleton, Leah Hogan, Jake Montgomery, Robert Thompson, Jessie DeGarmo, Lindsay Yust, Taylor Sharkey, Trinity Hoyt

2nd Grade: Courtney Young, Jessica Lee, Tiffany Glymph, Chloe Capen, Devon Kelly, Kai Rivera, Bianca Kirkpatrick, Mariana Landinez, Jacob Barron

3rd Grade: Joseph Pecori, Chloe Villacastin, Hector Arocho, Morgan Fritz, Cary de Graaff, Quinn Martin, Caylin Henriksen, Alyssa Zirger

4th Grade: Guadalupe Novoa, Leonardo Fernandez, Sofia Callejas, Amy Casey, Danielle Bernazar, Michael Barsuglia, Rachel LaFrance, Catherine Miller, Maliyah Cruz

5th Grade: Adriana Jacques, Christopher Purcell, Paula Hoheb, Nicole Ruppert, Trevor Grace, Briana Mauldin, Adriana Novoa, Stephen Lepore, Dharic LaGrandeur

6th Grade: David Alexis, Mackenzie McMichael, Ashley Serrano, Jessica Binetti, Rebecca Holtzclaw, Victoria Hernandez, Christian Chimeles, Leah Brant, Estella Mejia-Martinez

7th Grade: Justin Haefner, Ezekiel Rosalva, Jake Ferretti, Lindsey Lewis, Kathryn Herrick, Rebecca Sleight, Sara Giraldo, David Monteagudo, Shannon Ferguson, Amber Schwartz, Megan Molner

8th Grade: Scott Ritch, Michael Conger, Elissa Sanchez, Austin Binner, Vittoria Renda, Keana Almonte, Austin White, Gabrielle Morris, Doria Malizia

National Junior Honor Society

On Tuesday April 21, 2010 Palm Pointe welcomed its first group of students into the National Junior Honor Society. 61 students in 7th grade were inducted in the Palm Pointe Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. They received certificates and membership pins to symbolize their commitments to the National Junior Honor Society. In order to be inducted, students must have at least a 3.5 cumulative gpa in middle school, no referrals in middle school, and show excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Citizenship, Character, and Service. Film Director Aaron Blasie who is best known for directing *Brother Bear* and working as the supervising animator for movies like *The Lion King*, *Aladdin*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Mulan* spoke to the students about following their passions and pursuing their passions in the future.

2010-2011 Palm Pointe Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society Induction Class

Stephanie Alas, Jayde Alvarez, Kira Anderson, Kassandra Ayala, Reniece Baker, Amanda Bell, Jada-Lee Campbell, Courtney Chisholm, Camilo Clavijo Diaz, Grant Connick, Yulissa Cruz, Frances De Leon Rodriguez, Enzo Everett, Shannon Ferguson, Amanda Fritz, Sean Gamble, Bianca Garcia, Sara Giraldo, Vanessa Gonzalez, Zikia Griffin, Natalia Hazel, Kathryn Herrick, Tyler Hicks, Shannon Johannes, Althea Johnson, Alexis Keefer, Alexandra Kirk, Kristen Kohler, Breanne Krumenacker, William Lents, Chelsea Licea, Harold Mantilla, Annamarie Martin, Logan Mulderig, Yuri Neto, Payal Patel, Puja Patel, Andre Paula, Malyk Payne, Joshua Perez, Laura Puentes, Aaron Quinn, Rebecca Radtke, Evan Risi, Ricky Rodriguez, Anabelle Roy, Naomie Ruiz, Rovere Salisman, Amber Schwartz, Rebecca Sleight, Angel Sostre, Ryan Tang, Nyah Tennell, Pauletta Thomas, Valeria Tirado, Julian Tubello-Cassinari, Alejandro Vegara, Emily Walukiewicz, Arianna White, Zachary Wilmott and Amber Wisniewski.

School Wide Events

As Always, Thank You For Your Support..... We had a tremendously successful Book Fair, Science/Art Expo and McTeacher Night.



Palm Pointe's Kitchen received a 5 Star Award of Excellence



Spring Pictures

Money or returned pictures are due no later than May 7.

Enrollment Open Window

Palm Pointe's enrollment period is now closed for the 2010/2011 school year. Acceptance notices from the lottery are now being sent out. Please monitor our website for updates.

Skyward Student/Parent Access

Student and Parent access is now available using student number and lunch number. You can access your child's grade, attendance, teachers' direct email and missing assignments.

Parent Reminders

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 and/or 5 early pickups 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 **30 minutes** before dismissal.

Student Supervision

Students are permitted on campus no earlier than 9:05am. However, once students arrive on campus they are not permitted to leave to walk to the shops at Tradition. Students may only leave campus when signed out by a parent /guardian/emergency contact during the school day.

Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County In the Palm Pointe Auditoria

Has immediate openings in the before/after school Kidstop program.

No Waiting List!

Registration fee is \$35/\$15 sibling

Low Weekly Fee is \$30-\$52 depending on service required.

Please call **772-873-2848** for more information and/or registration.

PTO News

Thank you for making the Spring Fundraiser such an awesome success! Deliveries will be starting on May 5th!

PTO Board elections will be held at the PTO general meeting on May 12th @ 8:30am. Please plan on attending to elect those individuals that are a true key to the success of your child's school. It takes a team of parents, staff, and children to make a school a wonderful place to be! Please be a part of the exciting things that the PTO does by volunteering for the MANY functions that are planned for all to enjoy!

Teacher appreciation is the Week of May 3rd – We have lots planned & volunteers are greatly needed to make this a "true" appreciation week! There are many other things planned towards the end of the year that need lots of hands. Check out the calendar of events!

Thank you for another awesome year for our Rockets!

Dress Code

Thank you for supporting our "Dress for Success" with our students. Here are the revisions to dress code for the **2010/2011** school year.

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.

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.

Shoes/Socks/Laces/Boots

Shoes with wheels, clogs, sandals, jellies, crocs, flip flops, lights or cleated shoes are prohibited. No slipper-style soft-soled shoes, knee high tie up sneakers or fluorescent colors shoes.

Complete dress code guidelines is available online or from the front office.

Palm Pointe students participated in a Mock Trial sponsored by the St. Lucie Bar Association

Several Fourth and Fifth Grade students participated in a mock trial program sponsored by the St. Lucie Bar Association. Students took on roles of the plaintiff and defense lawyers, witnesses, and jury to prepare for the case. They learned how to write opening and closing statements as well as how to question the witnesses. The following students participated and got a firsthand look at how our Judicial System works.

Andrea Reconco, Natalya Castro, Adriana Jacques, Alexander Jacques, Kevin Aurelien, Mackenzie Jeffery, Joshua Harrell, Kenyon Reynolds-Weaver, Kyle Pilson, Faith Twomley, Bianca Kadison, Jennie Jean-Baptiste, Ferdinand Terilus, Jordi Munoz, Emma Gamble, Chase Finney, Emily Kologe, Kyle Schramm, Hannah Enoch, Criston Wilson, Renata Risi, Neil Roy, and Gina Carvelli. The Palm Pointe Facilitators were Mrs. Emily Bokhart, 5th grade teacher and Rene Kloorfain, 4th grade teachers and the Hon. Judge Kathryn Nelson from the St. Lucie Bar Association. What an awesome learning experience.

Palm Pointe Young Author Representatives and Information

All of our *Young Authors* at Palm Pointe have been busy creating original literary works over the past few months! Several related events will be occurring to celebrate the efforts of all of our budding young writers.

Each grade level will celebrate, in their own fashion, the creative work all of their students have accomplished in writing and illustrating their literary works. In addition, each Middle School team and K-5 classroom have selected their own best examples of creative original text and illustrations to be honored here at Palm Pointe on May 10, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. in the auditoria. Invitations will be forthcoming if your child's book was selected by their teacher to be their classroom's best work.

From the elementary classroom and middle school team winners, the Palm Pointe Reading Committee, consisting of members of the Reading Department and Administration chose the following books to be further honored at the District's annual *Young Author* event. This event, sponsored by the St. Lucie County Reading Council, limits the submitted number of celebrated students from each school to 3 per grades 1-5, 3 per grades 6-8, and 1 from ESE. The students selected will receive an invitation to be escorted by a maximum of 2 parents each to share in the festivities planned at Manatee K-8 on Saturday, May 22, 2010.

Congratulations to all those who have participated in this school-wide celebration of literacy at Palm Pointe! We are very proud of all of your efforts.

Congratulations!

District Representatives:

Grace Lloyd (Mrs. Smith, Gr. 1)

Shannon Robinson (Mrs. Pattison, Gr. 6)

Justin Qualtieri-Tyrrell (Mrs. Kuba, ESE Gr. 6)

Matthew DiMarzio- (Mrs. Boyer, Gr. 3)

Megan Molner (Ms. Bell, Gr. 7)

Catherine Miller (Mrs. Mihajlovski Gr. 4)

Payal Patel (Mrs. Sherwood Gr. 7)

Class Representatives:

Kindergarten:

Grace Piazza-Rudzinski
Sofia Tovar-Morlock

Matthew Nielsen-Campbell
Ripley Greenwald-Soumoff

Kiahra Wood-Henderson
Kate Diaz-Kenefick

Elijah Lindsey-Johnson

Multiage:

Ashley Reynolds-DeGraaff

Jasmine Gamez-Mrs. Lloyd

Leah Hogan-Gutierrez

James Pernell-Miller

First:

Trinity Hoyt-Bonet

Laurence Mitchell-Garcia

Athresha Kallari-Wiggins

Second:

Maria Prussing-Herndon

Mia Hill-Sukie-Callejas

Roger Serano-Davis

Madison Dye-Gagne

Danyel Ferrraz-Jackson

Sidney Scaletti-Kokinda

Caroline Enoch-Nigaglioni

Damita Gonzalez-Rodriquez

Third:

Laurn Beard-Efron

Aaron Chimelis-Flores

Madleine Sosa-Perez

Kasey Corripio-Hoeg

Miles Garriques-Polanco

Morgan Hack-Van Valkenburg

Fourth:

Julia Genkinger-Lipp

Gina Carvelli-Kloorfain

Annie Chow-Page

Caelan Mayieu-Pizzarello

Aishwary Kalluri-Powers

Macy Levin-Snyder

Fifth:

Carsen Corripio-Joie

Beatrice Hernandez-Enoch

Chloe La Pointe-Hudson

Daniela Tolosa-Mitchell

Alex Emmert-Murray

Julia Sessa-Rogers

Kenyon Reynolds-Weaver-Bokhart

Sixth:

Andrew Laszewicki-Kuba

Alexandria Velasco-Kuba

Ashley Smith-Kuba

Mackensie Michael-Kuba

Zaire Furlonge-Pattison

Taylor Mestre-Pattison

Valeria Viruet-Pattison

Seventh:

Amanda Bell-Sherwood

Harold Mantilla-Sherwood

Steven Russotto-Sherwood

Sara Giraldo-Bell

Leedy Boyle-Bell

Laura Puentes-Bell

Eighth:

Sherine Mustafa-Wright

Jacob Genkinger-Wright

Cassidy Cintron-Wright

Cassandra Babington-Wright

Valeria Hernandez-LaRocque

Brooke Caman-LaRocque

Emily Maddox-LaRocque

Ana Barros-La Rocque

ASD:

Class Book-Miller

Class Book-Weaver

You are all winners! *Go Young Authors Rocket Writers!*

Sunshine Standard Math

The original Sunshine State Standards were approved by the Department of Education in 1996 and were implemented at the beginning of the '96-'97 school year. The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) was developed based on these standards. Even though the FCAT was already being used to assess students and determine who was eligible to graduate, the "No Child Left Behind Act" of 2001 raised the stakes when it came to assessing the performance of students at all grade levels. In the subsequent years, Florida's students have demonstrated on FCAT and national assessments that the original standards were no longer sufficient to meet the needs of our students.

It became clear that these original standards, and hence the Florida curriculum, were commonly referred to as "a mile wide and an inch deep." Florida's standards needed to be adjusted to increase the level of challenge and coherence. In 2006, the Florida legislature passed House Bill 7087, which contains language establishing a timeline to review and, as necessary, rewrite the standards for all curriculum areas. Thus, the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) were introduced.

The goal of the NGSSS are to increase the proficiency of all students within one seamless, efficient system, by providing them with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills through [learning](#) opportunities and research valued by students, parents, and communities, and to maintain an accountability system that measures student progress toward the following goals:

- Highest student achievement
- Seamless articulation and maximum access
- Skilled [workforce](#) and economic development
- Quality efficient services

Palm Pointe is familiarizing all stakeholders with the induction of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. In April, teachers were oriented with an overview of the NGSSS and designed lessons centered around identified gaps of instruction between the old standards and the new. May introduced teachers to the Inquiry Model of Instruction where collaborative design was the focus. Summer months will be dedicated to professional development and alignment of materials and resources with the NGSSS.

To learn more about the benchmarks by grade and course, along with the [remarks](#) to the standards, visit the Florida Department of Education website: <http://www.floridastandards.org/Standards/FLStandardSearch.aspx>

Family Reading Festival

The inaugural St. Lucie County Reading Council's Family Reading Festival took place Saturday, April 24, 2010 with many Palm Pointe families in attendance. Rockets and their families were there to enjoy various reading related activities such as Reading Games, Puppet Shows, Awesome Authors, Mother Goose visits and more. Many of our middle school students from the classes of Ms. Pattison, Mrs. Kuba, Ms. Bell, Mrs. Sherwood, and Mr. Wright wowed the audience as they read the poems they had created. Elementary students from Ms. Kenefick's kindergarten class, Mrs. Repoli's 1st grade class, Ms. Rodriguez's 2nd grade class, and Ms. Polanco's 3rd grade class, as well as members of Mrs. Ann Ellison's Harry Potter Book Club entertained us with their Readers Theatre plays. Many teachers attended the events including Mrs. Garber and Ms. Bell who spent hours helping attendees trade their used books for new-to-them treasures at the Gently Used Book Exchange. In all, over 900 people enjoyed the festivities and Palm Pointe was well represented. If you missed this great event, plans are underway for next year's festival which Superintendent Mike Lannon has already described as a "target event" for the school district.

District Parent Survey

The online survey is available at www.stlucie.k12.fl.us/parents. Please take the time to complete the survey for Palm Pointe. We certainly value your input.

2010/2011

See updated School Supply list and updated Dress Code guidelines at www.tradition.fau.edu under the Parent Information tab.

See May and June calendars on the back of this page for a complete list of upcoming events



Mitch Kloorfain/ photographer/Hometown News
Amanda Bell, 12, of Port St. Lucie holds a candle along with 60 other inductees to the National Junior Honor Society during ceremonies held at Palm Pointe Educational Research School in Tradition Tuesday, April 20. Sixty-One students were recognized in the NJHS.



Mitch Kloorfain/ photographer/Hometown News
Aaron Blaise, Digital Domain director, presents Althea Johnson, 13, of Port St. Lucie with a pin to induct her into the National Junior Honor Society during ceremonies at Palm Pointe Educational Research School in Tradition Tuesday, April 20. Sixty-One students were recognized. Visit www.hometownnewsol.com for the full list of student

Truly Inspirational

Sophie Phillips a fifth grade student from Mrs. Joie class initiated and proposed a bill that was adopted and unanimously voted on to declare the February 6 -February 12 Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week. The goal of the bill is to raise awareness and increase funding for research. Congenital Heart Disease affects over 40, 000 children every year. Sophie hopes to take this all the way so that children will be routinely tested. The bill was sponsored by State Representative Adam Fetterman.

Inspiring Success

♦The one thing in life that you can change is yourself, and sometimes that makes all the difference to you and the world.

♦The difference between the ordinary and the extraordinary is the little extra.

♦The best spent 20 minutes of your day... Read with your child!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Staff Appreciation Week!	3	4	5	6 3rd Grade Young Authors Celebration 2pm, (Pods)	7 K Spring Tea, 1pm Pods Spring Picture Return Deadline 8th Grade Endeavour Young Authors Celebration, 9:45am Intramural Sports Celebration, 2:30pm- 3:30pm, Auditoria Jersey Day \$1	8 District Elementary Science Expo, 10:00am-3:00pm Havert Fenn Center, Ft. Pierce
9	B 10 School-Wide Young Authors' Celebration (identified students) 2:30pm, Auditoria	C 11 3rd Grade Holistic Testing Fundraiser Magic Show, 2:45pm Auditeria (identified Students) Soccer Game @ WGK8, 5:15pm	D 12 4th and 5th Grade Mets Day Field Trip 9:30-1pm Rocket Reward Social 2:30-3:30pm (25 Rocket Fuels) PTO mtg. 8:30 am	E 13 Progress Reports Chorus and Dance Spring Concert 6pm 3rd Grade Medieval Times Field Trip 7th Grade Kennedy Space Center Trip	F 14 Early Release 2:00 pm TCUS Bd 3:00 pm Track Meet, Lawnwood Stadium, 3:00pm	15
16	A 17	B 18 SAC mtg. 8:15 am COM 9:45 am Incoming Kindergarten Students Blast Off 6pm-7:30pm	C 19	D 20 Band Spring Concert 6pm	E 21 5th Grade Kennedy Space Center Trip 8th Grade Dance 6pm-9pm	22 Golf Tournament PGA District Young Authors Celebration 12pm, Manatee Academy
23 Palm Pointe Family Beach Clean-Up Waveland Beach 10am-1pm	F 24	A 25 Rocket Idol 6pm, Admission \$1	B 26 MS Semester Exams (Elective, LA and Research)	C 27 Progress Reports Band Trip to DC 4th Grade St. Augustine K Pinning 9:45am Kenefick Morelock Campbell 10:30am, Johnson, Rudzinski	D 28 K Pinning 9:45am Henderson, Soumoff 10:30am deGraff, Lloyd, T.Miller Rocket Reward "Pizza with the Principal (50 Rocket Fuel) 2:30pm- 3:30pm	29
	E	F	A	B	C	

JUNE 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Middle School Semester Exams (Reading and Science)	2 Middle School Semester Exams (Math and Social Studies)	3 K, Donuts with Dad 9:45am	4 Cafeteria Closed/ Bagged Breakfast and Lunch Grade 5 "Moving Up" 10am Grade 8 "Awards Ceremony" 1:30pm K Reading Picnic	5
6	7 Early Release 2:00pm 8th Grade Field Day	8 Early Release 2:00 pm 7th Grade Field Day	9 Early Release 2:00pm 6th Grade Field Day	10 Early Release 2:00pm K Camp Read A Lot 6-8 Rocket Reader Reward 1pm	11 Early Release 2:00pm Last Day for Students and Teachers Report Cards (K-5) go home	12
13	B 14 MS Report Cards mailed this week	C 15	D 16	E 17	F 18	19