

THE ORBITER

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PALM POINTE EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH SCHOOL
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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 2016. It is an honor to work with your children, and your continued support is appreciated. See you next year!

Debra Snyder, Principal

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.fl-schoolcounselor.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/>

Science Fair Results

Sixty- Two student projects were selected to compete in this year's school based science fair. We had a total of nine categories and the following individuals were chosen as the top competitors in each of their respective categories! Congratulations Rockets!

Botany

1st Place: Aaron Olivera, 7th Grade- Chamomile Growth: Which water grows it best

2nd Place: Haylynn Tate, 6th Grade- Mr. Magnet meets Mrs. Plant

3rd Place: Athresha Kalluri, 7th Grade- No Soil, No Problem

Honorable Mention: Melanie Blasco, 8th grade- Vibrations: Do or Don't

Chemistry

1st Place: Cassidy Taylor, 7th Grade- Ethylene's major affect on fruit

2nd Place: Nadia Castano, 8th Grade- Does Sugar affect Density

3rd Place: Jacquiline Jaimes, 8th Grade- C6H12O6

Honorable Mention: Justin Cruz, 7th Grade- Evaporation Rating

Microbiology

1st Place: Jayden Baker, 7th Grade- Eliminating Bacteria

2nd Place: Dudleen Paul, 7th Grade- Smelly Shoes

3rd Place: Nicole Vargas, 8th Grade- Germ Freaks

Behavioral and Social Sciences

1st Place: Justin Gazdacko, 8th Grade- Colorful Memories

2nd Place: Sidney Scaletti, 8th Grade- Left or Right

3rd Place: Alyssa Dwyer, 6th Grade- Dominant VS Non-Dominant

4th Place: Megan Audette, 8th Grade- Dogs, Cats, and Humans

Physics and Astronomy

1st Place: Isabella V. Nazario-Colon, 7th Grade- It's all about Bounce

2nd Place: Sofia Tovar, 6th Grade- Temperature VS Magnets

3rd Place: Connor Stottlimire, 6th Grade- Magnets attract

Honorable Mention: Hector Pena, 7th Grade- Which Bet is better?

Engineering

1st Place: Ariadna Hiller, 6th Grade- Solarize your Backpack

2nd Place: Alexander Gust, 8th Grade- Can solar energy power a car?

3rd Place: Tyler Cooke, 7th Grade- Charge with Solar

Honorable Mention: Annelise Ramirez, 8th Grade- Homemade Charger

Environmental Engineering

1st Place: Harlem Lilley, 7th Grade- Removing Oil From Rivers

2nd Place: Riley Holtzclaw, 6th Grade- Solar VS Wind: Energy Efficiency

3rd Place: Andre Gomes Lopez, 7th Grade- Electromagnetic Car

Environmental Science

1st Place: Sarah Wouters, 8th Grade- Saliferous Scum

2nd Place: Jackson Stewart, 8th Grade- How oil spills affect plant life

3rd Place: Maxwell Mckenzie, 8th Grade- Soil Erosion

Honorable Mention: Anthony Marlow, 7th Grade- Material Reactions

Medicine and Health

1st Place: Ellyn Delano, 7th Grade- An apple a day may not keep the doctor away

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.

Dear Palm Pointe Families:

Although news reports state that our economy is stabilizing, many of us in St. Lucie County 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:
1/27, 2/24, 3/18, 3/30, 4/27, 5/25, 5/26, 5/27

PALM POINTE LOTTERY REGISTRATION

The lottery deadline is fast approaching. Registration for the **2016-2017** school year is now open. The application window will close on

January 31, 2016.

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

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:

1/20, 2/17, 3/16, 5/18

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

KINDERGARTEN: Rylee Lupinski, Nijah Bois, Avery Oliver, Nicholas Orengo, Caynowa Beaubrun, Jett Lambert, Anthony Giaquinto, Alicia De La Cruz.

1st Grade: Elyjah St. Fleur, Larkyn Coles, Jaycee Mead, McKinley Lehman, Ameer Nofal, Dylan Rice, William Gilson, Aiden Bloomfield, Ayden Davis

2nd Grade: Dominic Heissenberg, Aidan Lexer, Findley Wessel, Jaycie Merra, Gavin Lunsford, Melania Apolostico, Shanice Cruz-Gomez, Melik Enoch, Jayden McGregor, Jessica Jaimes, Ed Cesar, Victoria Wilson

3rd Grade: Josslynn Withrow, Ian Meyers-Gonzalez, Gabriela Castelo, Moises Torres, Hannah Dorval, Madelein Crockett, Jaxon Behringer, Matias Calderon, Oliva Pacey

4th Grade: Bryceton Amritt, Kelsey Heishman, Michael Betancourt-Mercado, Maya Wright, Bridline Aurelein, Jayden Soto, Alondra Torres, Lupita Vargas

5th Grade: Treyvon King, Yanique Scott, Nicholas Stagg, Kiera Murray, Maximo Quintana, Branden Birch, Kevin Lalanne, Ashley Buchanan

6th Grade: Roman Jones, Nicolas Polanco, Briana Constransitch, Elyse Bailey, Dylan Grothe, Ashley Reynolds, Gavin Withrow, Jack Wasserman-Tapias, Rollin Pattison, Paige Clow, Sebastian Paez-Aguirre

7th Grade: Aldric Ward, Samantha Watson, Jorge Miranda, Daniel Polvos-Gomez, Hector Pena, Jeremiah St. Louis, Aashana Francis, Jordyn Behringer

8th Grade: Karen Extra, Madison Dye, Briana Hall, Jillian Owen, Jasmyn Fontanez, Devon Kelly, Russella Stevenson-William, Tanaje Forte, Nadia Castano

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.

PTO News

Thank you to all our hard working volunteers. The Holiday Shoppe was a huge success. The Palm Pointe Rocket Games aka Field Day will take place January 7 & 8. The PTO has provided ribbons and ice pops for the participants of this event. If you would like to assist, and are an approved volunteer, contact Robert.Santoro@stlucieschools.org or Joshua.Piscopo@stlucieschools.org. We will have another Box Top contest. The neatly trimmed Box Tops are due no later than February 19, 2016. There will be 3 lucky class winners.

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.
❖ 1,800,000 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 3.

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

Palm Pointe's 2015-2016 School Improvement Plan has been published. It may be accessed at:

<https://www.floridacims.org/districts/fau-lab-sch/schools/0020>

According to the U.S. Department of Education, "The purpose of the school improvement plan is to improve the quality of teaching and learning in the school, so that greater numbers of students achieve proficiency in the core academic subjects of reading and mathematics. The school improvement plan provides a framework for analyzing problems, identifying underlying causes, and addressing instructional issues in a school."

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 for lice. 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	2
3	4 Student Holiday PD/ Teacher Work Day	5 Students Return	6 Gr. 6 Mass Health Screen Grading Window Closes Potential Parent Tour 2pm PTO General Mtg 9am	7 Rocket Games (Gr. K,1 &2) 5 th Gr. In house field-trip Hobe Sound Nature Center- L Pad	8 Rocket Games (Gr. 3,4 &5)	9
10 <i>Kindness Week</i> Teddy for Tots Drive	11	12	13	14 9:45-11am 3 rd Gr. Parent Meeting in Launch Pad. Repeat session at 6-7:15pm Fire Drill 3pm	15 No dress code \$1 to support American Cancer Society	16
17	18 Holiday for All MLK Parade	19 Report cards go home 9:30- 10:30 Parent Academy	20 SAC 8:30am Citizen of the Month 10am (Identified Students) Gr.1 Adventure Nutrition Activity in Launch Pad Potential Parent Tour 2pm	21 IRSC Four County Honor Roll band rehearsal 6-9pm @ IRSC (Identified Students) Drama Dept. Production "Dorothy in Wonderland" 6:30pm Gr.1 Adventure Nutrition Activity in Launch Pad	22 IRSC Four County Honor Roll band rehearsal 1-8:30pm @ IRSC (Identified Students) Gr. 7 Project Citizen @IRSC Kight Center 8:30-2:30pm (Identified Students) Drama Dept Production "Dorothy in Wonderland" 6:30pm	23 IRSC Four County Honor Band Rehearsal Noon-4pm (Identified Students) Concert @ 6pm
24 Comprehensive #3 1/25-2/5 Gr. 3-8	25 PPE History Fair Judging	26 PPE History Fair Judging	27 Early Release Day	28 PPE History Fair 2:45 in Audeteria	29 PBIS Jersey Day for 5 Rocket Fuel	30
31						