



# Panther Paws

School Office: 754-322-7850

<http://www.browardschools.com/parkside>

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## Calendar of Events

### October

- 10/3:** SAC/SAF Meeting, 7:30 AM  
Media Center
- 10/9 –10/13:** FTE Week—School Funding dependent on attendance
- 10/17:** 3rd Grade Panther San Field Trip
- 10/17:** Student of the Month Ceremony  
8:20am
- 10/23:** Early Release Day—12 noon dismissal
- 10/23:** End of 1st Quarter
- 10/23-10/31:** Red Ribbon Week
- 10/24:** Employee Planning—No School for Students
- 10/25:** 4th Grade Everglades Field Trip
- 10/31:** Halloween Parade 8:30am
- 10/31:** PTA Sponsored Halloween Dance

## Administrator's Corner



Happy Fall Parkside Families! We have jumped right into the Pumpkin Season in a blink of an eye. Even though the South Florida temperatures continue to be in the nineties on a day basis, we still will try to enjoy what this next season brings. As a school, we are excited as we are finally finishing up all of the beginning of the year assessments and data collection, so we can make modifications on the curriculum and get back to what we love---Teaching Children!

This is also the time of year where teachers will be scheduling conferences with parents to share your child's progress and give you the opportunity to share any questions or concerns

that you may have regarding his/her progress. During these conferences, teachers will share all of the assessment data from the beginning of the year as well as how your child is doing overall in school. These conferences are a critical part of the home/school connection and are a required part of the elementary school years. Please let you children know that you value their education and get these scheduled for this fall.

October brings many fun activities throughout the month. Beginning with our PTA Scholastic Book Fair the week of October 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>. Students will be able to purchase books during the day throughout the week during their scheduled media time. Information will be coming home soon. You will also have the option of purchasing books with your child on October 12<sup>th</sup>, during our Family Science Night. Information was sent home about this event. We are really excited to have families work alongside their children completing hands-on science experiments. If you and your children complete three experiments and receive three stamps, you will receive ice cream from PTA. Each year we celebrate "Just Say No" during the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup> -October 31<sup>st</sup>. During this week we will have several different opportunities to dress up have fun days throughout the week with our last day being Halloween. On October 31<sup>st</sup>, we will be having our annual Halloween Parade at 8:30 am in our car loop and we always invite our families to come out and visit us and watch the children parade around in their costumes. Students will be allowed to wear their costumes to school, but we do encourage a change of clothes for after the parade. Also, you must remember no mask or no kind of toy weapons are allowed. More information will be coming home about this day soon. If your child does not celebrate this holiday, we do have an alternative activity in the media center during this time. Our PTA also offers a dance for all students on this day as well. So as you can see it will be a very busy month.

On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will end the first quarter of school. Even though it is the end of the quarter, the progress reports do not go home until later in the month. Please make sure you look for these and check your child's progress.

Each year we have a Thanksgiving Luncheon and invite all of our families in our school cafeteria. In order to properly plan for this event, we must send RSVP and collect money in the middle of October. Please be on the lookout for this form. If you do not RSVP, you will not be able to attend. This is such a wonderful event that we want all who can to attend so again look for this coming home soon.





October is here! We are in the full swing in Kindergarten. We are working on letter sounds and applying them to reading and writing, learning parts of a book and beginning writing stages. In math, we are comparing numbers 1 to 10. And in science, we are learning about living things and the plant life cycle. We will also be learning about the change in seasons now that it is officially fall! It is fire safety month so we will be doing activities that align with this and learning about fire safety! Your child's teacher will be conferencing with parents to update you on their progress thus far. So keep a look out for conference requests coming home in your child's folder or on the class app. Just a reminder to check your child's daily folder every day and read each night!



Wow, we are already halfway into the first quarter! First graders have been VERY busy. We have learned about having peace in our community and keeping a positive learning environment. \*We completed the first math topics on addition and subtraction equations. Next is Topic 3 addition and subtraction facts up to 20 using strategies. \*In science, the students have learned about science tools, their five senses, and the scientific method. The students will be learning about plants and how they grow in October! We will be going to Miracle Ranch in Davie (October 2nd) to explore different kinds of plants and animal life cycles! Lastly, we will be using our science skills to examine apples and pumpkins! \*Writing time has been great fun as we began our unit on Narrative writing. The children are learning how to write a "small moment" writing piece, by writing step by step and with lots of detail. Ask your child about George McClement's book, Night of the Veggie Monster. They loved it! \*Check out the homework journals daily for homework and the blue folder for important information. \*Please be sure to read with your child nightly and have him/her share the reading strategies they are learning in class. Reading practice is the key to success! Thanks for all YOU do!



Happy Fall! The first quarter is coming to an end on October 23rd which is an early release day, so dismissal is at 12:00 pm. The following day (**October 24th**) is a teacher planning day so **No School** for students. All beginning of the year assessments has been completed and this information will be shared with you at parent conferences. Your child's teacher will reach out to you to schedule a conference to discuss your individual child. Please make sure you are getting communication from your child's teacher through their classroom app or email. Communication between school and home is extremely important. In reading, the students will build literacy and language skills by participating in ten cross-disciplinary units of study in our Benchmark Advance Program. Each three-week unit will focus on one topic, and the topics will range from economics to earth science, history and culture to themes in literature, and much more. Unit 1 is "Plants and Animals in Their Habitats," and we will be learning about how living things survive. As we read different kinds of texts, both fiction and nonfiction, we'll be looking at habitats around the world. Your child will read about coral reefs, grasslands and the tropics. In addition, your child will be introduced to animals and their habitats in animal fantasy stories. In each case, we will be focusing on the essential question: How do living things get what they need to survive? It's a fascinating question that scientists have been exploring for ages, and I hope it will generate some interesting discussions at home as you and your child work on some of the following activities together. In math, we will begin Topic 3: Add with Sums to 100. There are online resources for families to support math instruction: <https://bit.ly/3PsQiGB>. You can use this resource all year long. Scroll down to find all the topics. There are videos and examples that you can use to help your child with math concepts. This valuable resource shows how concepts are taught through the Envision Math curriculum. In Science, we are continuing to dive deep into life cycles, basic needs, and habitats. In Social Studies, we are learning about places near and far. Students will locate their hometown, Florida, North America, Florida's capital, and our national capital on a map and globe. Students will label the continents and oceans. Lastly, students will locate the countries in North America, along with the Caribbean Islands, on a map. As you can see, we are very busy in Second Grade. Please make time to read with your child for at least 20 minutes every night. Thank you for all you do at home to ensure your child's success. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions.



Our third graders have settled into their new routines and by now have been exposed to all four specials including MEDIA every week! Please make sure to keep track of your child's day for MEDIA with their teacher, so as you know when to have them bring back their library books to exchange. In the first week of October, third-graders will be taking the first Benchmark Unit Test in their classrooms and will also soon be taking the first cumulative Math test on Topics 1-3. Classes are currently working on the Distributive Property of Multiplication and have been or will be tackling strategies for multiplication tables between 0 and 12. Students will benefit greatly from a few minutes of daily facts practice with flashcards and/or making lists. The better they know the facts or at least how to figure them out quickly, the less challenging the problem-solving component will be. "Practice makes Progress!" In ELA, we are going to be diving into Character Development, Plot and Theme, Opinion Writing, Verb Tenses, Conjunctions and Compound words. In Science, we are engaging in Classifying Plants, and will next delve into Plant Structures and Functions. In Social Studies, students will be exposed to elements and figures of Hispanic Heritage, as we our study of levels of Government. Later this month, we will be going on our first field trip! We will be going to the Amerant Bank Arena (Panthers Stadium) for a special STEM interactive day of workshops. Please do not forget to pay online and send in your permissions slip completely filled out. We hope to have all the class shirts prior to that. If not, further instructions will follow regarding what to wear. Thank you so much to all the parents and families for all of your support thus far. It has been a challenging school year thus far, but with adversity comes strength and integrity; and Panthers are both strong and proud!



We can't believe we are entering into the month of October already! The fourth-grade students have been working hard to establish their classroom and study routines. In math we are applying our understanding of basic multiplication facts to multiply larger numbers. In science, we are learning about traits and behaviors and how organisms adapt to their environment. We are looking forward to our first field trip coming up on October 25th. We will be heading to the Everglades to interact with the environment around us.



This has a been a fun month of learning. In reading, we are working on informational texts. We are finding the central idea with supporting details, text features, and cause and effect. Our grammar focus has been on the use of conjunctions in a sentence. In math, we are working on multiplying three and four-digit numbers by one and two-digit numbers as well as estimating. In science, we just recently finished learning about properties of matter and are moving on to mixtures and solutions. In social studies, we have been working on map skills. We are excited to see what November holds!

**September Counselor's Corner**



The month of October signifies that fall season is well underway; October also means that the end of Quarter 1 is near. Hence, all students should be settled in their classes, adhering to the rules of the school (e.g. consistent punctuality + attendance, listening to teachers/ staff, keeping hands/feet to self) and demonstrating their utmost academic capacity.

Parkside's Annual Harvest Drive is starting early this year. All Parkside families and staff are encouraged to participate. Collection boxes will be labeled according to grade and placed in the school's main hall beginning Monday, October 2, 2023. Furthermore, Harvest Drive items will continue being collected until October 27, 2023. The requested, nonperishable items are listed and divided as shown below:

**Harvest Drive Non-Perishable Items**

**\*\*Please Note: No Glass Jars**

- Pre-K/KG : Instant Oatmeal, Canned Fruit/Fruit Cups, Apple Sauce, Canned Gravy/Gravy Packets**
- 1st Grade: Pancake Mix, Syrup, Boxed Rice/Bag of Rice, Boxed Pasta/Bag of Pasta, Boxed Mashed Potatoes**
- 2nd Grade: Ramen Noodles, Cookies, Crackers, Canned Chicken/Canned Tuna**
- 3rd Grade: Microwavable Snacks (e.g. Popcorn), Macaroni & Cheese, Pop Tarts, Peanut Butter, Jelly (no glass jars)**
- 4th Grade: Boxed Stuffing, Kids Cereal (e.g. Trix, Captain Crunch), Brownie Mix, Cake Mix, Canned Beans/Bag of Beans**
- 5th Grade: Body Soap/Body Wash, Laundry Detergent, Ranch Dressing Packets/Italian Dressing Packets, Canned Soup, Any Canned Vegetables**

The character trait of *Responsibility* is highlighted and celebrated throughout the month of October. *Responsibility* is when an individual takes initiative in completing duties/tasks (i.e. without having to be told and/or reminded to do so). For example, if a student usually relies on a parent/guardian to wake up on time for school, then the student could demonstrate *Responsibility* by setting an alarm to wake up on time instead. For more information on the importance of kids learning about *Responsibility* and for ways to infuse the concept of *Responsibility* into your households, please visit:

<https://evolvreatment.com/blog/giving-kids-responsibilities/>

Sincerely, Tracy Cerra, School Counselor



**Out of Field Notice:**

The following teachers at Parkside are considered teaching "Out-Of-Field." This means that they do not have full certification in a certain area. These teachers are all in the process of obtaining the training and coursework to obtain the proper certification.

These teachers and their certification areas are:

Listed below as Current Certifications/Out-of-Field:

- Colwell, Kirstin — Elementary K-6/ESOL Category 1
- O'Reilly, Nicole — PreK-Primary Age 3- Grade 3/ESOL Category 1 & Gifted
- Franco, Shelby – Spec Expert Per Instruction Pre-K/ESE-Autism & ESOL Category 1
- Higgins, Colleen – Elementary K-6/ESOL Category 1
- Sriitharan, Thilaka – Biology Grades 6-12, ELEM K-6, ESOL Endorsement, Reading Endorsement/Gifted
- Torres Vendrell, Irma – PE K-12/PreK/Primary
- Vuckovich (Lamarre), Tamara – ELEM K-6, ESOL Endorsement, Reading Endorsement/Gifted
- Williams, Mykia—PreK-Primary Age 3 –Grade 3/ESE-Autism & ESOL Category 1

For more information please click on the link: [Parkside Out Of Field List](#)



Traveling Through Moments In Time!

### Parkside PTA Update

PARKSIDE ELEMENTARY



Hello October!!

PTA would love to thank all the amazing families that supported our Popcorn Fundraiser! We are so excited for this month as we have some amazing events going on. First, we have our Fall Book Fair starting October 9th through October 13th. Each class will have a designated time where they visit the Book Fair, your students teacher can advise you of the day they will be coming.

Let the PTA Sprinkle You With Love, as we will be having another amazing Family Giveback Night of Ice Cream Social on October 12th from 6:30pm - 8:00pm in conjunction with Parkside's Science Night and Book Fair Night. Ice Cream will be available on a first come, first serve basis while supplies last.

Additionally, PTA will have another student giveback on October 31st, hosting a Halloween Dance for all students who can attend. This has been a big hit in the past years, as students really enjoy themselves dancing and playing games for prizes. The dance will be during school hours and grades are split into different time slots. Please be on the lookout for flyers going home with additional information regarding Ice Cream Social and the student Halloween Dance. We look forward to seeing you all!

### School Advisory Update

**School Advisory Council (SAC):** SAC is a committee of parents, community members, and teachers who meet to discuss and monitor our School Improvement Plan. The focus of SAC is primarily student achievement but many issues are discussed that affect the school. SAC has an official elected membership but all are welcome to attend each meeting. Please join us for our next meeting on **October 3, 2023** in the school's **Media Center at 7:30am**. All are invited and we look forward to seeing you. Thank you!



**School Advisory Forum (SAF):** SAF is an open forum to discuss any school or community issue. While SAC focuses on the School Improvement Plan, SAF is the place to get more information, address any other concerns, or share ideas that impact the school. SAF has no official membership and our SAF meetings are held back to back with our SAC meetings. **This month we will be discussing the Title I Compact. We need as many parents as possible to review the Parent Compact! Please join us so that you can provide input into how these funds are used.**

**How can parents get involved and participate in the SAC/SAF committee?** During our meeting on **Tuesday, October 3rd at 6 PM**, Please join us for our first meeting.

**Why is it important for parents to be active participants?** The SAC committee provides a place where parents can voice their opinions and suggestions. They have an active role in making decisions that will best serve the students. SAC also gives the opportunity for parents to actively participate in setting goals and making plans to achieve those academic goals. SAC allows for parents to identify issues that need to be addressed concerning the school climate. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Panther Aftercare Reminders

- Hours are 2:00pm until 6:00pm. A \$15.00 late fee will be assessed to anyone who arrives after 6:00 p.m.
- We are asking you to start the year off by reminding your child(ren) that we follow the same rules during aftercare that we have for the school day.
- Payments are due on Wednesday October 11th by midnight. Please be on time to avoid a new registration fee of \$30.00.
- Change in pick-up should be communicated with aftercare as well as the teacher. Practice your school goals often.

Lakay Wilkerson, Aftercare Supervisor



The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and / or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational opportunities/ADA Compliance Department & District's Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department at (754) 321-2150 or Teletype Machine, TTY (754) 321-2158.