

# The Panther Playbook

Pines Lakes Elementary  
A School Wide Title I School



Susan F. Sasse, *Principal*  
John Hoolihan, *Assistant Principal*

December 2018  
pineslakes.browardschools.com

## A Message From Our Principal

Just as you and your families are gearing up for the approaching holidays, we too are preparing for a very busy December at PLE! Please make note of the days, times and information within this newsletter for our Field Days, PTA Holiday Store, Winter Show. We hope to see you at many of these exciting school traditions!

At Pines Lakes Elementary, we provided targeted instruction to all children using the Florida Standards as our framework. To ensure that our students are being provided the instruction they need to be successful, we have developed CARE Cycle assessments in reading, math, and science. Every three weeks, PLE students show what they know on these mini-assessments, and teachers use this data to provide students with remediation or enrichment on those standards. Additionally, students are expected to complete i-Ready lessons weekly. We enjoy recognizing our students who hard work on the CARE assessments and iReady lessons. Please refer to the flyer sent home for specifics about our Smart Cookie and Pie Ready incentive programs. We are excited to acknowledge the hard work of our students and hope we can count on your continued support of our student achievement. With so much happening at our school this month, I am sure our paths will cross for me to wish you a Happy Holiday in person. But in case I don't see some of you, I'll pass along my wishes now for a STEMazing holiday season!

Thank you for sharing your "gifts" with me - your PAWsome children! I am so blessed to serve as your principal!

*Mrs. Sasse*



@Sasseprincipal

## A Message From Our Assistant Principal

As we enter the month of December we are bringing 2018 to a close. It's important to take this time to reflect on the progress that we have made as individuals, as well as collectively as a school. This year we have grown in tremendous ways. Our students are improving their academic skills, and our teachers continue to guide each student to become even better each day. I walk our campus proudly in support of students and families. Together, we work as a collective group to make Pines Lakes the best school in all of Broward County. Your partnership is valued and it is my supreme hope that you work collaboratively with your child's teacher to develop a success plan to ensure your child receives the individual support he/she needs to be successful both academically and socially.

One of the things that I find myself speaking with our students about is kindness. Take a minute to think about the last time you did something kind for someone else. I challenge our students each day to do something kind for someone else. We are finding that the impact this challenge has had on our school has been incredibly positive. Little things go a long way and often times something small can mean the world to someone else in need. Please join our children and make this a practice in your daily lives. With all that is going on in our world at this time, let's make Pines Lakes Elementary our own personal paradise.

Mr. Hoolihan



@Mr\_Hoolihan

## Important Dates

- 11/30..... SAC Meeting 7:30 AM
- 11/30.....Honor Roll 8:30 AM
- 12/3 - 7.....PTA Holiday Shop
- 12/12...Chorus/Recorder Winter Show 6:00PM
- 12/14..... Student Of The Month 7:30AM  
PTA Jingle Ball 6:30PM

### FIELD DAYS 2018

Pre-K - VPK	12/11 – 8:30 to 9:30 AM
K	12/17 - 8:30 to 10:30 AM
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	12/14 – Full Day
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	12/13 – Full Day
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	12/18 – Full Day
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12/19 – Full Day
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12/20 – Full Day

- 12/21..... Early Release Day  
11:50 AM
- 12/24/18 – 1/8/19.....Winter Break
- 1/8/2019.....School Resumes

## Safety First

From Officer Soubasis



We would like to send out a safety reminder to those of you dropping off and/or picking up students at either car loop. Please remain alert and aware within the pick-up and drop-off loops. Many parents are on their cell phone, looking down, or distracted by other means while dropping off their kids. Students should be ready to exit the vehicle with their back packs/lunch boxes upon arrival and exit on the passenger side. Please remember to pull as far forward as you can for better efficiency of keeping our traffic flow smooth and less backed up. If traffic begins to back up, you may have noticed me forming two car lines to exit the loop area. Please be courteous and work together when merging back into a single lane to leave the campus. I hope you all have a safe and wonderful holiday. Thank you!

**Remember to label all jackets, sweaters, and lunchboxes with your child's name!**





## STEM-azing Stuff

Mrs. Funk, STEM Coach

Happy December! Our first Family STEM Night of this year was a great success, and I hope that those of you that were able to come out truly enjoyed the evening. If you borrowed any items from the Title 1 Resource Van, please be sure to drop them off in the office before winter break. During this month, PLE students are learning various science concepts, such as the different forms of energy and how these energies simply change forms as they can not be created or destroyed, force and motion, weather, and even the components of soil. Hands on collaborative learning is in full force, as students have become familiar with the new science materials and continue to engage in scientific inquiry with classroom labs and demonstrations.

Although snow and ice are not part of winter here in South Florida, for those of you who travel over the break, I'm sure you will encounter your fair share of these wintry conditions. Icy roads are a huge problem and many states use salt trucks during the winter. Do you know why??? Salt and ice react chemically to help melt the ice. Salt also reduces the freezing temperature of water, making it colder than just the ice alone. You can use this principle for a fun and delicious STEM activity and make your own ice cream! All you need is milk, sugar, any toppings you like, 2 zip lock bags, salt and ice.

Fill a small plastic bag with 1/2 cup milk, 1/2 tbsp. vanilla and 1 tbsp. sugar. Next, half fill a large plastic bag with ice. Have your child pour 6 tbsp. of salt over their ice then place the small bag in the large bag. (Rock salt works best.) Have them seal their large bag and start shaking for 5 to 10 minutes. They will be able to see through the clear bag what the salt does to the ice, and how their ice cream is made. Experiment with different ingredients and enjoy!



## Loving Literacy

Mrs. Benitez, Literacy Coach

Panther Family Tips for Keeping Your Children

Reading Over the Holidays



As the holiday season gets closer and kids are home from school, it's easy to get busy in all the preparation and forget to keep kids on a regular reading schedule. Here are some ideas to keep your children reading over the holiday break.

- Have your kids read holiday cards when they are received in the mail and let them write a message in outgoing cards.
- Write and read thank you notes.
- Let kids read ingredients from holiday recipes while you bake together. It's a great way for them to learn measurements and temperatures.
- Set aside time for kids to "show off" their new reading skills to visiting family. Children love being the focus of attention, and grandparents and other family members are usually more than willing to see their progress.
- Make special holiday readings a tradition. Find a special book for the holidays and have each member of the family read from it at the same time each year.
- Even if no books make your child's wish list, make sure you give at least one as a gift, and encourage them to read it.
- Have kids read to their siblings, cousins, friends, or to any other children they socialize with over the holidays.
- Find books that focus on an interest your child has. There are books out there for every interest, it just takes a little searching.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS!

## "PAWSITIVE" PTA NEWS

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our FALL FUNDRAISER TOP SELLERS - Zunairah Small, Dylan Rodriguez, and Isabella Figueroa.

**HOLIDAY SHOP** - December 3rd - 7<sup>th</sup>

**JINGLE BALL** - December 14th at 6:30 p.m.

The following classes enjoyed a popcorn party for the highest PTA Membership - Mrs. Allick, Mrs. Dejean, Mrs. Leto, and Mrs.

Rodriguez SPIRIT SHIRTS will be sold at all PTA sponsored events. \$12 Cash. Supplies are limited. We

would like to wish all of our families a happy and healthy holiday season! PTA can be contacted via email

at [Pantherprideple@yahoo.com](mailto:Pantherprideple@yahoo.com)

## Exceptional Student Education

Dr. Taber, ESE Specialist



It's hard to believe that another year is quickly coming to an end.

This school year our ESE panthers have been working extra hard to achieve great success in the classroom. This success is the result of teamwork and you are a great part of this success.

I would like to personally thank our parents for providing us with the necessary support to help your child succeed.

The ESE Department hopes that 2019 brings you health, happiness, and prosperity.

On behalf of the ESE team at Pines Lakes Elementary, we wish you and your family a peaceful holiday season and a wonderful New Years!!

Happy Holidays.

## Healthy Hearts and Minds

Mrs. Yolove, Guidance

Romalho is a pleasure to have at PLE. He is a hard worker and great leader. Math is his favorite subject and tries very hard during that time. Romalho always steps up and helps others in class when needed. He comes in smiling every morning and always has something nice to say either to the teachers in the room or his fellow peers. Romalho portrays all the characteristics of a kid of character!



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