

The Panther Playbook

Pines Lakes Elementary
A School Wide Title I School



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

November 2018
pineslakes.browardschools.com

A Message From Our Principal

November is one of my favorite months of the year! I find it gives me time to pause and appreciate all the blessings in my life. These include our STEMazing students and super staff here at PLE. Our school recently recognized two of our staff members - Mrs. Hastings, Teacher of the Year, and Mrs. Desilva, Employee of the Year. Please join me in congratulating them. They represent the PAWsome staff we are blessed to have at our school! Thanks also to each of you for all you do to support PLE! I count each of you among my blessings!

I am constantly amazed by the work our students produce as young scientists. Being a STEM school gives our students the opportunity to expand their scientific minds. They complete weekly hands-on experiments in class, learn about engineering and robotics in Computer Science Special, and use the engineering design process (Ask, Imagine, Plan, Create, Improve) to solve challenges when working in their Tinkerspaces (lower school) or Engineering Workshops (upper school). Together these programs help support our mission to develop students who are problem solvers and innovative thinkers. You can learn all about these programs at our first STEM Family Night of the year on Thursday, November 8th. You'll get to work hands-on alongside your student, view our student's projects, watch our Chorus perform, and visit our Book Fair.

We do our best to communicate with our parents through several methods: our monthly newsletter comes home around the first of each month, our marquee is updated weekly, and parent blasts are sent via phone, text, and/or email on Mondays. If you aren't receiving my Monday calls or emails, please contact the office to verify we have current contact information for you.

I hope November will be a fruitful month for all our Panthers!



@Sasseprincipal

Mrs. Sasse

A Message From Our Assistant Principal

Greetings Pines Lakes Community,

We are firm believers that knowledge is power! Mrs. Sasse and I love that we have so many involved families here at PLE! Despite your busy schedule, there are a number of ways that you can stay informed. Following our fantastic teachers on Twitter can give you a glimpse into the wonderful things that are occurring each and every day on our campus. Many teachers also use ClassDojo to communicate daily with families. You can stay up to date on the latest and greatest news from Broward County Public Schools by downloading the BCPS mobile app. Register for free today and you can gain access to important information, review meal menus, and subscribe to our school to see all things PLE by visiting browardschools.com/mobileapp. Please join us on Friday, November 30 in our Growth Lab for the next School Advisory Council (SAC) and School Advisory Forum (SAF) meetings. This is a great opportunity for you to be heard. Your input on important matters that relate to curriculum and school-wide decisions that related to our overall mission is valued.

Teachers will be distributing quarter one progress reports on November 14. Lower and upper school students receive a progress report each quarter. We encourage parents to review the progress report with their child to reflect on their accomplishments to date. Reviewing progress is a great foundation to help set new goals for the upcoming semester. If you and your child need help with goal-setting, our teachers are great at helping to set achievable student goals. Remind your children that becoming great at anything takes effort over an extended period of time.

Thank you for all that you do to help us to be the best school in all of Broward County! I'm always available to help you and your children in return!

Mr. Hoolihan



@Mr_Hoolihan

Important Dates

- 11/1 – 8.....Fall Book Fair
- 11/6.....Planning Day – No School
- 11/8.....4th Grade Field Trip
- 11/8.....STEM Family Night 6:00PM
- 11/9.....Veterans' Day Lunch at PLE
- 11/12.....Veterans Day – No School
- 11/14.....Report Cards Issued
- 11/16.....PTA Movie Night – 6:00PM
- 11/20.....Fox Mar – Make Up Pictures
- 11/21 - 23..... No School -
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!
- 11/30SAC Meeting 7:30 AM

Honor Roll Assemblies



Safety First

From Officer Soubasis

This is a reminder for traffic issues that we ARE STILL having. Colleagues of mine have been instructed by police administration and city officials to continue issuing citations for the following areas that are being ignored by our parents. DO NOT BLOCK 103 AVE., NW 3RD ST., any driveway, or access point to the senior center or neighborhoods while waiting for dismissal. Traffic MUST FLOW FREELY ON 103 Ave. and all public streets. RIGHT TURN ONLY during drop-off and dismissal on 103 Ave. and RIGHT TURN ONLY (ALWAYS) when leaving the front visitor parking lot. NO STOPPING ON JOHNSON STREET to drop-off or pick-up students.

Thank you to ALL of those parents who do cooperate with the system and have consideration for others.

Teacher Of The Year

"It has been an honor to be chosen as "Teacher of the Year" at Pines Lakes Elementary School. I am incredibly fortunate to be teaching alongside some of the most innovative and passionate educators who support and encourage me everyday. My passion as a teacher is to instill kindness and responsibility into my students, so they may carry a message of compassion into our future."

Carey Hastings, Kindergarten Teacher

Non-Instructional Employee Of The Year

"It's an honor to be nominated for Employee of the Year! I wish I could share this distinction with all the nominees. We all make our school great!"

Diane DeSilva, IMT/Clerical





STEM-azing Stuff

Mrs. Funk, STEM Coach

Welcome to November, a month filled with endless STEM opportunities! We have our very first Family STEM Night of this year on November 8 at 6:30 pm. We hope you can make it as we take a trip to some very famous world landmarks and visit the Title 1 activity van. Be on the look out for the flyer soon.

As we settle into the month, the Thanksgiving holiday comes into focus, both at home and in the classroom. Students will learn or revisit the history of the first Thanksgiving in the New World and the trials and tribulations of both the Pilgrims and Native Americans. This becomes a wonderful time to incorporate some STEM challenges or activities at home with your child. You can work together to build the Mayflower using various materials, and see how well it can carry passengers on it's voyage. Maybe you would rather build a tower using just toothpicks and whole cranberries. What shape of base would provide the most support? Try it out and see. We all know that baking, cooking, and eating is all part of the Thanksgiving holiday, and cooking with your children teaches them valuable math skills. Measuring and weighing both dry and liquid products lets students see the real world application of units of measurement. How many cups of flour does the recipe call for? How many teaspoons of cinnamon does it take to make one tablespoon? This type of activity truly exemplifies the idea of hands on, minds on! Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!



Loving Literacy

Mrs. Benitez, Literacy Coach



Not All Kids Are Motivated to Read

Some kids hate to read ... especially struggling readers. For these reluctant readers, it may take a bit of creativity to convince them to spend time reading. And it may take even more effort to help them enjoy reading.

There are many reasons that kids don't enjoy reading. But before you can work on motivating your child, it helps if you understand why they resist reading in the first place.

"Reading is hard!" If your child feels that reading is too much work, try to begin by identifying and addressing areas of weakness. As they become a better reader, they will grow to enjoy reading much more. Limiting "screen time" may increase a child's interest in reading.

"Reading is boring!" It may be that they just haven't found reading material that motivates them. So think about what your child loves to do. Do they have a hobby or special area of interest? By finding reading material that piques their interest and draws them into reading, you're giving your child an enthusiasm for books.

Tips to Help You Motivate a Reluctant Reader

Make time for reading. If you and your children have busy schedules and reading is shoved between sports and other activities, reading may seem like extra work. Allow reading to be a relaxing and enjoyable time. Create a cozy reading place for your child. A special reading space may be all the encouragement your child needs to settle down and spend time with a good book! Look for a variety of reading material. Have your reluctant reader read easy picture books to younger siblings. This provides excellent practice yet it doesn't feel like work. The idea is to get them interested in books so they read more and more!

Healthy Hearts and Minds

Mrs. Yoloye, Guidance

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Gigi is such a model student for establishing our classroom culture each and every day. She is attentive and ever-ready to use the Power of Three (taking care of self; taking care of others around her; and taking care of the classroom environment). Gigi is a joy to have in the class. She is consistently punctual. She strives to do her best in every situation throughout the day.

"PAWSITIVE" PTA NEWS

free. Popcorn & Drinks for \$1 Cash Only. you'd like to see!

The final numbers for our Fall Fundraiser are still being calculated. More information to follow.
Upper School: Mrs. Allick and Mrs. Leto with 10 memberships
Mrs. Rodriguez with 8 memberships

limited. As always, you can reach PTA via email at Pantherprideple@yahoo.com

Exceptional Student Education

Dr. Taber, ESE Specialist



Happy Fall to all our wonderful parents and students. As we move into the second academic quarter the ESE Department at Pines Lakes Elementary is working hard with Individualized Educational plans for our students and we would like to take a minute to thank all the parents who have actively participated in meetings thus far. Parent participation in the special education making process is extremely important for the academic progress of the students. Your participation and input is greatly appreciated not only by the school but by the students as well. As a parent, you are a very important member of the educational team and your opinion is valuable.

If you have any concerns or questions about the academic progress of your child and your child is not part of the Exceptional Student Education program, feel free to contact the ESE Department at Pines Lakes and we would be happy to answer any questions or concerns you might have.

Looking forward to an awesome Fall Season and an even better nine weeks of academic progress.

VETERANS' DAY!

PLE is proud to invite all veterans with students in our schools to have lunch on us with their children on November 9, 2018. Any veteran who has served our great nation through military service is invited to attend during your child lunch time.

In order to attend this event, please RSVP on the flyer that went home last week.



MOVIE NIGHT – November 16th at 6:30pm. Admission is

Be on the lookout for the PTA Movie Night Flyer and cast your vote for the movie you'd like to see!

Thank you to our PLE families for making our SPOOKTACKULAR Dance a smashing success, yet again!

Highest PTA Memberships for Lower School: Mrs. Dejean and Highest PTA Memberships for

SPIRIT SHIRTS will be sold at all PTA sponsored events. \$12 Cash Only and supplies are limited. As always, you can reach PTA via email at Pantherprideple@yahoo.com

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.

