

The Panther Playbook

Pines Lakes Elementary
A School Wide Title I School



Susan F. Sasse, *Principal*
Amrita Balroop, *Assistant Principal*

November 2019
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 - Ms. Greenwell, Teacher of the Year, and Mrs. Mondejar, 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 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 on coding with your student, view our student's projects, visit the mobile planetarium and more!

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 full of blessings for all our Panthers!



@Sasseprincipal

Mrs. Susan Sasse

A Message From Our Assistant Principal

Happy Fall Pines Lakes Family,
Thank you for your involvement in your child's education! We are happy to see our parents attending our events such as our monthly SAC meetings, our Student of the Month Celebration, our PTA meetings and most recently our Leadership Night. A strong school to home connection is critical to supporting your child's education and one way to show them that you care about their education is by attending school events and getting involved. You can stay informed through Broward Schools (BCPS) mobile app, our school's website and our Twitter account. Many teachers also use Class Dojo to communicate with parents, so we urge you to stay in touch. Teachers will be distributing report cards on November 13, 2019. Lower and upper school students receive interim reports each quarter. We encourage parents to review these progress reports with their child to reflect on their accomplishments. Reviewing is also a great way for you to help your child set new goals for the upcoming quarter. Remind your child that becoming great at anything takes effort over an extended period.

Thank you for all that you do to help us to be the best school in Broward County! As always, my doors are open to you, please feel free to share with me your questions, comments or concerns.



@AP_Balroop

Ms. Amrita Balroop

Important Dates

- 11/5.....Veterans' Day Lunch at PLE
- 11/6..... STEM Family Night 6:30PM
- 11/11.....Veterans Day – No School
- 11/13.....Report Cards Issued
- 11/15.....PTA Game Night – 6:30PM
- 11/30SAC Meeting 7:30 AM
Honor Roll Assembly 8:30 AM
- 11/27 - 30..... No School -
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

Safety First

From Officer Soubasis



Hello Panther Parents!

The State of Florida has initiated a new traffic law for ALL school zones and work zones.
NO HANDHELD CELL PHONES/DEVICES IN SCHOOL ZONES, WORK/CONSTRUCTION ZONES.

Basically, "a person may not operate a motor vehicle while using a wireless communications device in a handheld manner in a designated school crossing, school zone, or work zone area. A motor vehicle that is stationary is not being operated and is not subject to the prohibition in this paragraph." THIS LAW INCLUDES OUR CAR LOOPS. For additional details on this new traffic law, you can search for Florida Statute 316.306 (3)(a)1. Please do not take offense if I, or another officer warns you or issues a citation. Have a great November and a very Happy Thanksgiving Holiday.



Teacher Of The Year

"It is such an honor to be Pines Lakes Elementary's Teacher of the Year. The professional and caring culture of PLE is what sets it apart. We teach character education right alongside academic education. Students know that every adult on campus cares about them. I am so proud to be part of this team and it has been so rewarding to see our students grow. I can't wait to come to work each day. Thank you for your kind support".

Meghan Greenwell (AKA Ms. Greenbean), Third Grade Teacher

Non-Instructional Employee Of The Year

"It's an honor and a privilege to be nominated as Employee of the Year and represent Pines Lakes Elementary".
Maria Mondejar, Clerical.



STEM-azing Stuff

Mrs. Funk, STEM Coach

Greetings PLE Families,

This month we celebrate National STEM Day and what better way to celebrate than to come out and attend our Family STEM Night on November 6th. Hoping to see you there as it will be an out of this world experience!

There are ways that you can celebrate National STEM Day at home too. STEM refers to the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math so choose one area to focus on and turn it into a family activity. Have your student/s assist with meal preparation and investigate quantities with measuring cups and measuring spoons. If you have access to the internet, research new recipes together and try them out. Carve a pumpkin and replant the seeds. How about building something together that would help solve a common problem at home? Maybe you can start your own window garden or even build a birdhouse. Just have fun!



Loving Literacy

Mrs. Benitez, Literacy Coach



Happy November Panther Families!

The days leading up to Thanksgiving present a perfect opportunity to think about values such as gratitude, charity, friendship, and community. Below are a few ways to celebrate the holiday while improving literacy skills!

- Make an "I Am Thankful for..." book, where your family can write and illustrate what you are most thankful for. This encourages children to demonstrate gratitude while also strengthening their reading and writing skills.
- Play board games! Using an interactive game keeps children interested, and constantly learning while practicing reading skills.
- Make arts and crafts of traditional Thanksgiving characters, such as turkeys and vegetables. These can be used to retell fun Thanksgiving stories or to invent your own!
- See how many different words your child can build by rearranging the letters in Thanksgiving-themed words, such as "thankful," "turkey," and "pilgrim."
- Write a thank you letter to someone who helped you recently.
- Write a poem about what Thanksgiving means to you.
- Read a non-fiction book on Pilgrims, Native Americans, or Thanksgiving.
- Help students create Thanksgiving dinner menus. This will give them a chance to show off their writing skills to dinner guests!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

POWER UP WITH NUTRITION

Mrs. Kelly Hepler, Cafeteria Manager

Greetings from the Cafeteria. We had a wonderful month of October where we celebrated National School Lunch Week from October 14-18, 2019. We had a name the cafeteria contest, and the results will be coming out soon. We are looking forward to celebrating Veteran's Day where we will be inviting Veterans to come and have lunch with their student on November 5th, 2019. A big THANK YOU to those who serve, and to those whom have served. I would like to remind parents to please make sure your students have money in their lunch accounts, and also to practice their lunch number with their child to expedite the line faster. Thanks and have a great day!

VETERANS' DAY!

PLE is proud to invite all veterans with students in our schools to have lunch on us with their children on November 5, 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.

"PAWSITIVE" PTA NEWS

Our PTA Board has been formed! We welcome all family, friends, and neighbors to join as members of our PTA for only \$5 per member. Please remember by joining PTA there is no time commitment required. Please look out for a flyer coming home soon. We will be selling pizza, \$2 per slice and drinks, \$1 each at our Title 1 STEM Night on November 6th. Our first annual Free Family Game Night is on Friday, November 16th at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. PTA is always available via email at pantherprideple@yahoo.com.

We wish all families a Happy Thanksgiving!

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.



Exceptional Student Education

Dr. Taber, ESE Specialist

Happy Fall to all our Panthers. As we move into the second academic quarter the ESE Department at Pines Lakes Elementary is working hard making sure all of our student's needs are being addressed with their unique Individualized Educational Plans.

I 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 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 not only important but is also very 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 I 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.

Healthy Hearts and Minds

Mrs. Yoloye, Guidance

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Andia displays citizenship in all areas of the school setting! She is a role model for other students by following directions and putting forth her best effort on her work. Andia is a wonderful student and we are so lucky to have her in our school. Congratulations to Andia!



