


The Panther Playbook

Pines Lakes Elementary
A School Wide Title I School



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

 @Sasseprincipal

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pineslakes.browardschools.com


A Message From Our Principal

Happy Fall to all our Panthers! It's hard to believe that the first quarter of the school year ends later this month. We are looking forward to our annual fall traditions with the Fall Festival Parade and PTA "Spooktacular" Dance. Mark your calendars using the information included in this newsletter. In fact, there are so many great things happening at PLE, I hope you'll take a minute to allow me to brag about them!

Our school is committed to continuing our improvements in reading achievement. Each team of teachers has a devoted thirty-minute intervention block of time to provide students with another dose of reading instruction. Students are grouped based on their individual needs and receive instruction from either their teacher or another teacher on their grade level. During this targeted instruction, research-based programs are used that enrich, support, or remediate the students' skills in literacy. All our students have the benefit of accessing iReady at home. This web-based program is provided free to parents, and personalizes student instruction to target students' unique areas of needs in order boost achievement in reading and math. Please reinforce your child spending a minimum of 15-20 minutes nightly on iReady math or reading. As we dive further into STEM this year, we are continuing are quarterly STEM Family Nights. Our first one is scheduled on November 8th. You won't want to miss out on this opportunity to see our student projects and experience Science, Technology, Engineering and Math with our hands-on demonstrations.

We are so proud of our Swimming Panthers! Thanks to the Swim Central program, our Pre-K Panther Cubs and Kindergarten students will attend free water safety classes this year. Special thanks to our parent chaperones who are dedicated to helping us during swimming!

The first two weeks of this month are designated as "Disability History and Awareness Weeks". At PLE, we celebrate all our students and strive to promote positive attitudes, a culture of mutual respect, and understanding of all. We have some fun things planned in recognition of this special week. Our Annual Leadership Night is on Tuesday, October 2nd starting at 6:00 pm. We hope you'll join us to learn from your PLE leaders: your principal & assistant principal, as well as our student leaders on Safety Patrol & Student Council, and our parent leaders on our PTA. Pines Police Department will also be here to share some important safety information. I hope to see you and your family at one of our October events. Until then, I wish you a beautiFALL day!

 @Mr_Hoolihan

Mrs. Sasse

A Message From Our Assistant Principal

We are off to a terrific start to our school year at PLE! Thank you to the dedicated professionals that have a positive impact on the lives of children. From the bus drivers and crossing guards, to the cafeteria staff, classroom assistants, front office clerical staff, and facilities personnel; every adult that steps foot on our campus does so with a defined role that helps to make our team complete. Our students benefit tremendously from the commitment of caring professionals that provide high quality instruction and something that a school grade could never measure, love.

Please join us at our next School Advisory Council (SAC)/ School Advisory Forum (SAF) meetings on October 26 at 7:30 am. Reading our newsletters, visiting the school website and us on social media are all great ways to stay informed. Come to SAC/SAF to let your voice be heard and play an active role in the education of our children. You can help us tremendously by ensuring your child is ready to learn and face the challenges of the day. As a polite reminder, the tardy bell rings every day at 7:50 am. By arriving at 7:10 am your child is able to eat breakfast free of charge and has plenty of time to make sure he/she is in their seat and ready to learn. Helping your child stay organized by reviewing nightly homework as a family and making sure their book bag is packed and ready can help to remove stress from your morning routine.

Let's make this a spooktacular month of learning!

Mr. Hoolihan

Important Dates

10/2.....	Leadership Night 6:00 PM
10/8 -12.....	Pre-K Swimming
10/8 – 12.....	National School Lunch Week
10/12.....	Individual Picture Day
10/17.....	VPK Parent Session 8:30 AM
10/18	Early Release Day- 11:50 AM
10/19.....	No School –Teacher Planning
10/20.....	VPK Field Trip
10/22 - 26.....	Red Ribbon Week
10/26.....	SAC/SAF Meeting 7:30 AM
10/26.....	PTA "Spooktacular Dance" 6:30 – 8:30 PM
10/31.....	Fall Festival Parades: Lower School & Pre-K 8:15 AM Upper School 8:40 AM

Safety First

From Officer Soubasis



As we continue getting settled into our new school year I would like to thank all of you for your cooperation when dropping off and picking up our little Panthers. As we also continue to adapt to the new school board safety rules, please be sure to have students here on time. We are under strict guidelines to have the gates closed and locked at the beginning of school (7:50am SHARP). Any late arrivals must go through the front office after 7:50am, entering off of Johnson Street. After receiving numerous complaints from local residents, traffic police officers will continue to be assigned to the area of 103rd Ave. at pick-up/dismissal time. As a few of our parents have found out, officers WILL ISSUE CITATIONS for blocking intersections, being stopped on or blocking 103 Ave., side streets, the senior center, and so on. Traffic must be able to travel freely on 103rd Avenue without any obstructions. Thank you!

Fall Festival Parade

October 31st

Lower School and Pre-K - 8:15

Upper School - 8:40

Students may wear a costume of their choice to school and bring uniform clothes to change into. Student dress code must be followed including closed-toe shoes. **Accessories, masks and face paint are NOT permitted!**

Parents and families are welcome to join us on the sidewalk near the bus loop to view our parade.



STEM-azing Stuff

Mrs. Funk, STEM Coach

Our Panthers have surely been off to a STEM-azing start this year. I truly have enjoyed walking through classrooms and seeing STEM challenges completed across all grade levels. From the apple tower challenge in second grade, to the paper airplane challenge in fourth grade, our students continue to gain valuable collaborative and critical thinking skills through hands on learning. You can continue this trend at home and deepen these skills with your own STEM challenges. Now that fall has officially started, take advantage of the local fall produce and design some fun family activities that incorporate both math and science concepts. Pay a visit to your local pumpkin patch and choose pumpkins of various sizes and shapes. Have your child find the weight of each one and then determine the total weight of all the pumpkins chosen. Do pumpkins float? Pose this question to your child and then test it out. Be sure to test pumpkins of different sizes. The results may surprise you! Apples are another fall favorite to add to a STEM challenge. Using only toothpicks and diced apples, build the tallest tower you can. Another apple idea is to conduct a science experiment in order to determine the best method to store cut apples so they won't oxidize and turn brown. Does the fridge work best? Or maybe a sealed container left on the counter? Work together to make predictions and come to conclusions. Any way you "slice it", STEM activities are fun for the whole family!

Loving Literacy

Mrs. Benitez, Literacy Coach

Happy October Panther Families! Even though it doesn't feel like it, fall is here and it is a great season to incorporate fall themed literacy activities with arts and crafts. What better way to spend family time than making something together as family and reading great books! Broward County libraries have many fall themed activities for the month of October. They include arts, crafts, storytime and more! [/www.broward.org/Library/Events/Pages/FallFestivals.aspx](http://www.broward.org/Library/Events/Pages/FallFestivals.aspx) Your local library has special sections of fall themed books for all grade levels. The librarian is also a great resource for book recommendations. Remember that reading at home is an integral part of student achievement and the positive impact it can make on your child. Happy Fall!



Healthy Hearts and Minds

From Mrs. Yolove

Kid of Character-September



Noemie is our schoolwide Kid of Character for September. She is a very responsible and committed. In addition, Noemie demonstrates cooperation at all times. She works well with her classmates and is an asset to her class. Way to go Noemie, we are so proud of you! Congratulations to all our Students of the Month who will be recognized on October 5th.

Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Anti- Drug Campaign is the oldest and largest drug prevention program and reaches millions of Americans each year from October 23rd to October 31st in thousands of schools. Pines Lakes Elementary will celebrate this substance abuse prevention week with school wide activities.

Harvest Food Drive

Harvest Drive is a non-profit organization that provides food and assists families through Broward County Schools. Each year the goal is to feed a minimum of 2000 needy families throughout the county and Pines Lakes Elementary wants to be a part of this event. If your family is in a position to help a needy family, please send in the following items according to your child's grade level.

- Pre- K - Large toothpaste, napkins, or canned cranberries
- Kindergarten - Dish soap, peanut butter or Jelly
- 1st Grade - Juice (apple or grape), cereal/oatmeal or cookies
- 2nd Grade- Canned gravy, canned tuna/meat, or canned fruit
- 3rd Grade - Canned vegetables, laundry detergent, or canned soup
- 4th Grade - Canned vegetables, laundry detergent, or canned soup
- 5th Grade- Pancake mix, pancake syrup, pasta, rice or aluminum foil

We appreciate all donation but please send in item from the list, items that are not expired and must be sealed. We will begin accepting donation on October 15, 2018.

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



Every day students with disability make amazing contributions to Pines Lakes Elementary. The first two weeks in October celebrate Disability Awareness in Broward County. The Florida Statue (1003.4305) was created to increase attention to preventing harassment of student with disabilities and to encourage better treatment of individuals with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities constitute our nation's largest minority group. Disabilities are inclusive of age, gender, ethnicities, or socioeconomic labels yet, the only thing in common is the fact that individuals with disabilities are always on the receiving end of societal misunderstanding and discrimination. Kathy Snow (2016) in her article "People First Language" teaches us that words matter and that disability is a natural part of the human experience. People with disabilities cannot be defined by their diagnosis just like others cannot be defined by their gender, ethnicity, or other traits. Disability is a medical diagnosis and when we define people by their diagnosis we devalue and disrespect them as individuals. Additional information about disabilities and other resources available in Broward County Public Schools can be found Information about Disability and other resources are available in the Exceptional Student Learning Support website at: <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7674/urlt/0064490-dha-resource2010.pdf> If you have any questions about disability, please stop by my office and I would be happy to meet with you and talk about our available resources. In the meantime, on behalf of the ESE Department at Pines Lakes Elementary, we wish you another great month of learning.

"PAWSITIVE" PTA NEWS

Thank you to all of our PLE families for participating in our 2018 Fall Fundraiser! **SPOOKTACULAR** Dance - October 26th from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Admission \$1.00 per person- RSVP Required. Pizza, chips, and drinks will be sold for \$1 each. Costume contest, dancing, and fun for the whole family! As always, you can reach PTA via email at Pantherprideple@yahoo.com Text @hg9ef to 81010 and stay informed with Remind101 for PTA updates and more!

