



# Panther Paws

School Office: 754-322-7850

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

**Laneia Hall, Principal**  
**Jodianne Martin, Assistant Principal**

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## Calendar of Events

### January

- 12/23-1/3:** Winter Break
- 1/8:** First Grade FAST Testing—ELA
- 1/8:** Second Grade FAST Testing—Math
- 1/8:** Fifth Grade Field Trip—JA Biz Town
- 1/9:** SAC Meeting
- 1/9:** Fourth & Fifth Grade FAST Testing—Math
- 1/10:** No School—Teacher Planning Day
- 1/14:** Kindergarten Field Trip—Parker Playhouse
- 1/14:** Third Grade FAST Testing—ELA
- 1/15:** Fourth & Fifth Grade FAST Testing—ELA
- 1/16:** First Grade FAST Testing—Math
- 1/16:** Second Grade FAST Testing—ELA
- 1/17:** Kona Ice Visit
- 1/20:** No School—MLK Day
- 1/22:** Third Grade FAST Testing—Math
- 1/24:** PTA Movie Under the Stars
- 1/25:** Annual Title 1 Parent Seminar
- 1/28:** Fifth Grade Field Trip—Coral Springs MS
- 1/28:** Fifth Grade Field Trip—Sawgrass Springs MS

## Administrator's Corner

Happy New Year and Welcome 2025! WOW, you blink and an entire year has flown by. We hope you and your families have had a wonderful two weeks off and enjoyed the Holiday Season. We know these breaks are well deserved for our students. Over these last few weeks before break, the students enjoyed a lot of fun holiday activities to end their week. Just a friendly reminder we do start back with students on the 6th of January and there is a teacher planning day on the 10th. This was an update to the calendar after the two hurricane days back in the fall.

January begins a busy time of year for students as we are getting into our final stages of preparation for the end of the year testing. During the first three weeks, all of our students will be taking their second FAST Progress Monitoring Assessment. Please make sure you pay attention to schedules and weekly Parent Link for the exact days for each grade level. This PM data is really important for the students to see where there are gaps and gives us a very good predictor of their final PM. Parents in grades 3-5, talk to your children about their goal setting for both I-Ready and FAST. See if they have made growth or met their target. We want the students to understand it isn't always about being the highest or reaching proficiency, it is about personal goals and growth.

Each year Parkside collects hundreds of jackets, sweaters, water bottles, etc. from students who have forgotten to pick them up or leave them at school. We do have an identified area in the cafeteria where we place all lost and found, but twice a year we do donate these items to a charity. We always send Parent Links out about this a few weeks ahead of time letting families know when this will take place. Please continue to write their names in these items and make sure you are checking with your children each day. If you ever want to stop by and check the lost and found, please do.

Parents, we are looking for a parent who would like to attend the Annual Title I Parent Seminar. This will take place on Saturday, January 25, 2025 at the Ft. Lauderdale Marriott, Coral Springs Hotel and Convention Center. This is right here in Coral Springs this year. This event is filled with great speakers, prizes and resources for our families. Please reach out to the school if you are interested in attending this event. Parkside will pay for one parent to attend.

We want to take a moment and thank our wonderful PTA for all that they do for our school. Not only so they support our students and provide activities and events for the year, they take care of our staff. PTA took some time and spruced up our staff lounge and made this a nice cozy, relaxing place for staff to come on their lunch and break. Thank you so much for your continued support.

We hope that 2025 bring you all lots of joy, love and good health. Thank you all for being a part of Parkside where we G.L.O.W., Growing and Learning Our Way.

**Ms. Laneia Hall, Principal**

 Kindergarten

Happy New Year!!!! As we start the second half of the school year, we will hit the ground READING!!! Make sure you are reading with your child every day. We will continue to work on CVC words and blending letter sounds. Make sure you are reviewing sight words daily. The more fluent your child is with their sight words the more confident of reader they will become. We will continue working on addition and subtraction in math. You can practice addition facts by playing fun games at home to keep it fresh. Continue to read daily with your child and talk about what you are reading to check for understanding. We will have our first field trip on January 14th to see a play and more to come in the spring.

Thank you for continued teamwork in your child's education!

 First Grade

It's hard to believe we are halfway through the school year! We hope everyone had a nice winter break! As we begin the third quarter, we are focusing on a few new things. To begin with, in Reading we are busy practicing reading strategies so that all the first graders continue to make progress. Be on the lookout for reading comprehension passages going home!

In Math, we are continuing to learn about numbers and a counting sequence. We are starting topic 8 Counting and Modeling Numbers, (is a tough chapter), so please take time to practice math on a daily basis. Please practice math fluency facts, as well!! We will be starting Topic 9 comparing numbers. As we settle back in from the break, we are learning about Earth Surfaces. We've discussed what materials are on the surface of the earth like rocks, soil, and bodies of water. Have your child go outside and find parts of the Earth surface!

As always, please continue to read nightly, practice spelling and sight words, and having conversations with your child about what they are learning in school.

 Second Grade

Welcome back second graders and Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful and restful Winter Break. A BIG thank you to our awesome PTA for all their time and dedication with all the holiday activities the past month! We are looking forward to 2025 and completing this second semester strong.

This month we will be taking our STAR PM2 Assessments on January 8th and 16th. We will be starting Unit 5 Benchmark in Reading. In math, we will be beginning Unit 8- Understanding Fractions. Continue to work on your addition and subtraction fact fluency and working with 2-digit numbers using your strategies. In science, we will continue to work on Magnets and begin learning about Rocks. In Social Studies, we are continuing and finishing learning about Colonial America. Please continue to work on I-Ready 45 minute per week on both subjects.

Thank you for your continued support!


**Third Grade**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! 2025 is going to be EPIC! This is the year your third grader should become a fourth grader! We had lots of fun activities and themes during the last week before winter break, but it's time to dig deep! In the first week of January, third-graders are starting Benchmark Unit 5 in their classrooms with a focus on the Advancement in Technology and on the essential question "What is the value in innovation?" In Reading, Language and Grammar, we will concentrate on compound sentences, context clues and text structures, and continuing to identify and repair fragments and run-ons. In Writing, students will revisit Opinion writing citing evidence. We will also work on understanding of author's purpose and author claim. Toward the end of the month, we will concentrate on conjunctions, real-world perspectives, other types of poetry, and evidence-based inferences. We will also take the FAST PM-2 assessments in MATH and READING.

In Math, we will continue with Topic 7: Adding Multi-digit whole Numbers. Teachers have also begun doing daily math review activities to keep students fresh on all Math concepts. At the end of each week, students may be getting a brief quiz on those particular items as a way of monitoring key standards.

In Social Studies, we will be concentrating on the values and history around Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the impact his messages have had on society. This will also bring us into deeper studies on Black History. In Science, as we finish up FRICTION, we will explore OBJECTS IN THE SKY, culminating to our next field trip on January 27 to see "Janet's Planets" at Parker Playhouse. Permission slips and payment details have already gone home. Please make sure to fill out and pay as soon as possible. Details to follow!!

As always, please make time for reading at home! This can include reading to your child, having your child read aloud to you or a sibling, or just reading silently. A great trick is to turn on the Closed Captioning on all your TVs. It is nearly impossible NOT to read words that come across the screen! This is NOT to replace reading books, or other literature, just a great practice tool!


**Fourth Grade**

With the New Year right around the corner, our 4<sup>th</sup> graders are working at a faster pace, exhibiting better student expectations, and are growing as both learners and people. In regards to math, they have worked on being fluent in division. In reading, we have worked on wrapping up fiction and moving to non-fiction. We have heavily discussed author's perspective and point of view. In social studies, we are learning about Native American tribes and moving to European explorers. In science, we are learning about plant and animal life cycles. In writing, we are working on coordinating conjunctions and using correct homophones. Had a great time mixing up some holiday fun and finished off 2024 on a good note!


**Fifth Grade**

Hello families!

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season! Information has come home regarding the 5<sup>th</sup> end of year field trip. The deposit is \$173.00, and we will be able to determine the remaining balance once all deposits come in. The deposit is due by January 12, 2025. There will also be a form coming home regarding the Sawgrass Nature Center field trip. The cost of this trip will be only \$10.

IReady Diagnostics have been completed, and your child's teacher will discuss with you at your next conferences. Upon our return FAST PM 2 for Mathematics is on January 9<sup>th</sup> and English Language Arts is on January 15<sup>th</sup>.

In reading, we will begin a fiction unit that will address concepts of character development throughout the story, figurative and analyzing character perspectives. In Math, we will begin Topic 7, which covers plotting coordinates, interpretation of line graphs, identify and create rules for numerical patterns. For science we will be exploring the solar system and in Social Studies we will "Explore Explorers".

The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Team



**Important Reminder**

A reminder not to park at Green Wood Square for student pick-up. Parents have been parking in designated spots and blocking entrances for the doctors and patients. If you decide to park there regularly, you may purchase a parking decal. If your car does not have a decal for Green Wellness Centre and Spa, you will be towed.

**School Advisory Update**

Happy New Year! You are cordially invited to attend Our January School Advisory Committee and School Advisory Forum meeting which is being held in the school's media center on Thursday January 9, 2025. Please arrive a few minutes early in order to get checked in so that we can begin our meeting promptly at 7:30a.m. Looking forward to seeing you there.



**Panther Aftercare News**

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Let's make it a great start to 2025. We hope that you enjoyed your 2 weeks off with family and friends. We missed you and we look forward to the rest of the school year.

The next payment is due on Monday January 13, 2025. Payment must be received before services are rendered. You can make your payment online at ESTORE.BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM up until midnight on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January. If you have any concerns with your payment, please call 754-321-0600.

If you have not done so already, please take a few minutes and complete our Aftercare survey. Thanking you in advance for doing this. Continue to review our 5 Parkside goals and keep it positive!

**Lakay Wilkerson, Aftercare Supervisor**

**School Counselor's Corner**

As another new year unfolds, Parkside Elementary remains dedicated to facilitating the utmost potential in each student. The month of January signifies that the second part of the school year has begun. The second part of the school year is a vital time in student learning. Classroom curriculums reach their peak and various achievement measurements are conducted.

As the remainder of the school year unfolds, it is important for parents/guardians to remain in consistent communication with teachers and any other necessary Parkside personnel. When school personnel are made aware of **circumstances that are adversely affecting OR circumstances that may adversely affect** a student's success (e.g. an illness, a life altering event) appropriate facilitation and/or resources can be provided to help alleviate the impact or potential impact of such circumstances.

Respect is the character trait for the month of January. *Respect* is when one demonstrates decency/politeness and attentiveness. It's always appropriate to demonstrate *Respect*, even during times when it is difficult (e.g. A driver gets pulled over by a police officer and receives a citation for not using a turn signal; the driver remains polite and attentive to the police officer despite being informed of the pricey citation).

For ideas on how to incorporate the meaning and importance of *Respect* into your household visit: <https://www.steppingstoneschool.com/5-ways-to-teach-and-encourage-respect/>

**Nicole Hahn, School Counselor (K-2) & Tracy Cerra, School Counselor (3-5)**



## Field Day Champions



**Kindergarten  
Ms. Stertzbach**



**First Grade  
Ms. Colwell**



**Second Grade  
Ms. Gutzmer**

## Field Day Champions



**Third Grade  
Ms. Ovesen**



**Fourth Grade  
Ms. Lamarre**



**Fifth Grade  
Ms. Burby**



### FortifyFL

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. Visit the website to download the appl or submit a tip online : [www.getfortifyfl.com](http://www.getfortifyfl.com)

### Parkside PTA Update

Welcome January! We hope everyone had a wonderful winter break. PTA is happy to announce that this month we will be providing a Family Movie Night on Friday, January 24th. Flyers will be going home with additional information, please make sure to return your RSVP if your family plans to attend... We wish everyone a Happy New Year and look forward to a wonderful second half of the school year



Thank you to the PTA for sprucing up our Teacher's Lounge and for adding a coffee station! We appreciate you!



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.