



The Panther Scoop: December 2023

Stay up-to-date with our monthly newsletter of what's happening around Pasadena Lakes Elementary!

Janet C. Williams, Principal

Mokisha Spencer, Assistant Principal

Dawn Michaud, Technology Support Specialist II, Editor

December 2023



- **12/4:** KG Field Trip, Broward Center; Rainbow Fish
- **12/5 & 12/6:** GR 3 -5, ELA FAST PM2
- **12/7:** Yearbook/Journalism Club, 7:45 AM, 111E
 - Book Club, 2:15 PM, Media Center
 - Hanukkah Begins at Sundown
- **12/8-12/15:** Hanukkah
- **12/11 & 12/12:** KG-2, STAR Reading PM2
- **12/12:** GR 1 Field Trip (In-House), Gabbie Bus
 - Winter Show at Charles F. Flanagan High School, 6:30 PM
- **12/13 & 12/14:** KG-2, STAR Math PM2
- **12/14:** GR 4 Field Trip, Parker Playhouse
 - GR 5 Field Trip, Pines Middle School
 - S.A.V.E. Club, 2:20 PM, Room 150
- **12/15:** GR 5 Field Trip, Driftwood Middle School

12/18 - 12/22: Polar Express Week

- **12/18:** Santa Tree Topper Hats Dress
- **12/19:** UGLY Sweater/Shirt Dress
- **12/20:** Flannel/Plaid Dress
 - GR 4 Field Trip, Museum of Discovery Science
- **12/21:** Holiday Socks Dress
- **12/22:** Pajama Day Dress (School appropriate PJ's, NO SLIPPERS, closed toed-shoes only!)

12/25/23 - 1/7/24: WINTER BREAK, School Closed

- **1/8/24:** Classes Resume promptly at 8:10 PM! Don't be late, AIM FOR 8:00 AM!

Pasadena Lakes Elementary School's Polar Express Spirit Week

MONDAY
12/18

Santa's Helper Tree Topper Hats
Wear Holiday Hats



TUESDAY
12/19

**Winter Wonderland
UGLY Sweater/Shirt**



WEDNESDAY
12/20

**Baby, It's Cold Outside
Flannel/Plaid**
Wear Flannel/Plaid shirt



THURSDAY
12/21

**Cozy Toes
Holiday Socks**
Wear festive Holiday Socks



FRIDAY
12/22

**Polar Express
Pajama Day**
NO Slippers!



A Title 1 School

Pasadena Lakes Elementary School's Semana del espíritu de Polar Epress

LUNES
12/18

**Sombreros de copa de árbol del
ayudante de Papá Noel**
Use sombreros de vacaciones



MARTES
12/19

**Las maravillas de invierno
Suéter/Camisa Fea**



MIÉRCOLES
12/20

**Bebe esta frio afuera
Franela**
usar camisa de franela



JUEVES
12/21

Calcetines navideños Cozy Toes
Use calcetines festivos de vacaciones



VIERNES
12/22

Día del pijama Polar Express
SIN pantuflas



Una escuela de Título 1

Student ID Badge Replacement Form



Dear Parent/Guardian:

I lost my school ID that I need each day for school safety and cafeteria meals.

Please help me to get my ID replaced by following the directions below:

Student's Name: _____

Homeroom Teacher's Name: _____

Student's ID #: _____

e-Store Receipt #: _____

Parent/Guardian: Payment of \$5.00 must be paid ONLINE!

<https://www.browardschools.com/pasadenalakes/estore>

Return this completed form to the Homeroom Teacher. After payment is received/processed, the student will be photographed and receive the replacement student ID badge. Please allow 24-48 hours for processing, thank you.

Ms. Janet C. Williams, Principal; Ms. Mokisha Spencer, Assistant Principal Mrs. Dawn Michaud, Technology Support Specialist II

Pasadena Lakes Elementary

Formulario de reemplazo de credencial de identificación de estudiante

Estimado Padre / Tutor:

Perdí mi identificación escolar que necesito todos los días para la seguridad escolar y las comidas en la cafetería.

Ayúdenme a reemplazar mi identificación siguiendo las instrucciones a continuación:

El nombre del estudiante: _____

Nombre del maestro de aula: _____

Número de identificación del estudiante:

N.º de recibo de la tienda electrónica: _____

Después de recibir/procesar el pago, el estudiante será fotografiado y recibirá la tarjeta de identificación de estudiante de reemplazo.

Padre/Tutor: ¡El pago de \$5.00 debe realizarse EN LÍNEA!

<https://www.browardschools.com/pasadenalakes/estore>

Devuelva este formulario completo al maestro de aula. Después de recibir/procesar el pago, el estudiante será fotografiado y recibirá la tarjeta de identificación de estudiante de reemplazo. Espere entre 24 y 48 horas para el procesamiento, gracias.

Sra. Janet C. Williams, directora; Sra. Mokisha Spencer, subdirectora Sra. Dawn Michaud, Especialista en soporte tecnológico II

Photography/Journalism, Yearbook Club

Grade 4: *Would you rather live in the City or the Country?*

text

text

text

text

text

text

text

Grade 5:

text

December is National Pear Month



All December long, National Pear Month recognizes the flavor and versatility of this delicious fruit.

Whether they are enjoyed fresh off the tree or as a preserve, pears add significant nutritional benefits to any diet. In the United States, there are ten varieties of pears. They range in color, texture, and sweetness making them useful for a wide range of dishes.

Subtly alter a pear by lightly baking it and releasing the juices. It makes an elegant presentation and an even more delicious dessert. Pair it with wine and cheese for an elevated flavor. Add pears to soup to take advantage of their luxurious texture and forgiving character.

Pears offer so much with their variety and abundance. During National Pear Month, enjoy all they have to offer!

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalPearMonth

Don't hesitate to explore pear recipes for supper this month. They will add a whole new flavor profile to your cooking.

- Roasts, [chicken](#) and turkey all receive upgraded flavor when pears are added.
- Salads come alive with sliced pears and light vinaigrette dressing.
- Add a pear chutney to just about any pork dish and you won't be disappointed. The spicy sweetness adds a warm flavor that is deliciously satisfying.
- As mentioned above, pears and cheese go well together. That means, they also complement each other on a [crusty pizza](#), too.
- When it comes to turkey leftovers, add a few slices of pears to your turkey and cranberry sandwich. The combination will be one of ultimate satisfaction.
- Many vintners offer pear wines that delight the tongue. Their subtle sweetness sometimes leans toward a dessert wine, but not always. Some pear wines are made for lingering over.

Try a new variety of pears. Check out the [recipe page](#) for several new pear recipes and use #NationalPearMonth to share yours!

Educators and families, visit the [National Day Calendar Classroom](#) for projects to help you Celebrate Every Day!

NATIONAL PEAR MONTH HISTORY

The U.S. Department of Agriculture proclaimed December National Pear Month in 2004.

Resource: <https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/december/national-pear-month-december>

Don't be LATE, Aim for 8:00 am!!



Parents we need your help!! If your child(ren) arrive at school AFTER the 8:10 AM bell, the Parent/Guardian **MUST** accompany them into the front office. **DO NOT DROP THEM OFF AT THE FRONT OFFICE DOOR!!** The student **MUST** receive a tardy pass and the parent/guardian **MUST provide a verbal reason for the tardy** when the student arrives at school.

The Parent Drop off loop will close at the sound of the first bell at 8:05 am. This will allow staff to arrive to class on time to assist students and teachers. Students dropped off after 8:05 am, will need to use the main office entrance for drop off and be escorted to the door.

Thank you for your cooperation with this **EXTREMELY** critical attendance matter!!

Forgotten Items??



One of our goals is to teach our children responsibility. However, we all forget things occasionally. On that rare occasion that you have to drop forgotten items off in the office, please, label them with your child's name and teacher's name.

Our Office Staff will be happy to assist you in getting the items to your child. We do ask that you be patient as our office staff are usually very busy. Students may not be called to the office immediately, but, items will be give to the student in a timely manner.

Silence Hurts



1 - Words can hurt others, but sometimes, silence hurts even more!

The School Board of Broward County encourages students to report information about any non-urgent illegal activity, such as vandalism, theft, the sale and distribution of drugs or information about crimes that are being planned. This service allows students, as well as teachers and faculty, to send anonymous tips by sending a text message from a mobile phone, email or internet source. The following information may be utilized to contact the anonymous hotline which is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 day a year.

- **TELEPHONE** (National Hotline): 1-800-96-ABUSE (22873)
- **WEBSITE:** www.dcf.state.fl.us/abuse/report
- **EMAIL:** school911@browardschools.com
- **CALL:** 754-321-0911
- **TEXT:** "SBBC" space with your text message to 274637 (CRIMES)

Panther Child Care: 754-323-6922

Ms. Tinerino-Allen, Supervisor



Pasadena Lakes "Panther Care" is the place to be!

Do you ever worry that you'll be late to drop off or pick up your child from school on time? Do you want them to be engaged in social and academic activities and interact safely with new friends after school?

If so, our aftercare is the place to be! Join the fun today!

Our students are involved in many amazing activities and we appreciate your support in making our program the best there is! They receive homework "help" for 45 mins daily, eat a healthy supper, play indoor and outdoor sports/dance activities, complete arts and crafts projects, and participate in other subject areas and enjoyable events that take place in our program.

Program Hours:

Panther "Before Care Hours" are from 6:40 a.m.-7:40 a.m.

Panther "Aftercare Hours" are from 2:10 p.m-6:10 p.m.

Costs per Child to attend:

- Registration fee per each child \$30.00
- Monthly Before Care Fees: \$63.00
- Monthly Aftercare Fees: \$256.00**(includes early release days)**
- Monthly Activity Fee \$12.00
- **Scholarships are available. To apply, please visit: browardschools.com/bascc**
 - ***If approved, scholarships must be paid in the front office.***

Aftercare full fees and Activity fees are due each period together.

*Late pick up fees of \$15.00 will be applied after 6:10 p.m.

Ms. Tinerino-Allen can be reached at (754) 323-6922 from 2:10 PM - 6:10 PM.

December Theme: The Gingerbread Man, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and other exciting holidays around the world!

Don't be left out, sign your child up today!

Happy Holidays from Ms. Tinerino-Allen and her amazing Staff!!

We wish you an amazing holiday season!

Mrs. Morrow, Title 1 Liaison



Working with Teachers and Schools

Many teachers say that they don't often receive information from parents about problems at home. Many parents say that they don't know what the school expects from their children—or from them. Sharing information is essential and both teachers and parents are responsible for making it happen.

The following questions and answers can help you to get the most out of talking to your child's teacher or with other school staff members.

Q: *What do I do first?*

Learn everything that you can about your child's school. The more you know, the easier your job as a parent will be. Ask for a school handbook. This will answer many questions that will arise over the year. If

your school doesn't have a handbook, ask questions. Ask the principal and teachers, for example: What classes does the school offer? Which classes are required? What are your expectations for my child? How does the school measure student progress? Does it meet state standards? What are the school's rules and regulations? Ask about specific teaching methods and materials—are the methods based on evidence about what works best in teaching reading or math? Are the science and history textbooks up to date? Ask if the school has a Web site and, if so, get the address. School Web sites can provide you with read access to all kinds of information—schedules of events, names of people to contact, rules and regulations and so forth. Keep informed throughout the school year. If your schedule permits, attend PTA or PTO meetings. If you are unable to attend, ask that the minutes of the meetings be sent to you. Or, find out if the school makes these minutes available on its Web site.

Q: When should I talk with my child's teacher?

Early and often. Contact your child's teacher or teachers at the beginning of the year or as soon as you can. Get acquainted and show your interest. Tell teachers what they need to know about your child. If she has special needs, make these known from the beginning. If you notice a big change in your child's behavior, school performance or attitude during the school year, contact the teacher immediately. Report cards are one indication of how well your child is doing in school. But you also need to know how things are going between report cards. For example, if 38 your son is having trouble in math, contact the teacher to find out when he has his next math test and when it will be returned to him. This allows you to address a problem before it mushrooms into something bigger. Call the teacher if your son doesn't understand an assignment or if he needs extra help to complete an assignment. You may also want to find out if your child's teachers use e-mail to communicate with parents. Using e-mail will allow you to send and receive messages at times that are most convenience for you.

Q: What if my child has a problem, such as with homework or not understanding what's happening in class?

Contact the teacher as soon as you suspect that your child has problem with his schoolwork. Schools have a responsibility to keep you informed about your child's performance and behavior and you have a right to be upset if you don't find out until report-card time that your child is having difficulties. On the other hand, you may figure out that a problem exists before the teacher does. By alerting the teacher, you can work together to solve a problem in its early stages. Request a meeting with the teacher to discuss problems. Tell her briefly why you want to meet. You might say, "Tim is having trouble with his social studies homework. I'm worried about why he can't finish the assignments and what we might do to help him." If English is your second language, you may need to make special arrangements, such as including in the meeting someone who is bilingual. Approach the teacher with a cooperative spirit. Believe that the teacher wants to help you and your child, even if you disagree about something. Don't go to the principal without first giving the teacher a chance to work out the problem with you and your child.

Q: How do I get the most out of parent-teacher conferences?

Be prepared to listen as well as to talk. It helps to write out questions before you leave home. Also jot down what you want to tell the teacher. Be prepared to take notes during the conference and ask for an explanation if you don't understand something. In conferences, the teacher should offer specific details about your child's work and progress. If your child has already received some grades, ask how your child

is being evaluated. Talk about your child's talents, skills, hobbies, study habits and any special sensitivities such as concern about weight or speech difficulties. Tell the teacher if you think your child needs special help and about any special family situation or event that might affect your child's ability to learn. Mention such things as a new baby, an illness or a recent or an upcoming move. 39 Ask about specific ways to help your child at home. Try to have an open mind. At home, think about what the teacher has said and then follow up. If the teacher has told you that your child needs to improve in certain areas, check back in a few weeks to see how things are going.

Q: What if I don't agree with a school rule or with a teacher's assignments?

First, don't argue with the teacher in front of your child. Set up a meeting to talk about the issue. Before the meeting, plan what you are going to say—why you think a rule is unfair or what exactly you don't like about an assignment. Get your facts straight and don't rely on anger to win your argument. Try to be positive and remain calm. Listen carefully. If the teacher's explanation doesn't satisfy you, arrange to talk with the principal or even the school superintendent. Do not feel intimidated by titles or personalities. An educator's primary responsibility is to ensure the success of each and every student in his classroom, school or district.

Q: What's the best way for me to stay involved in my child's school activities?

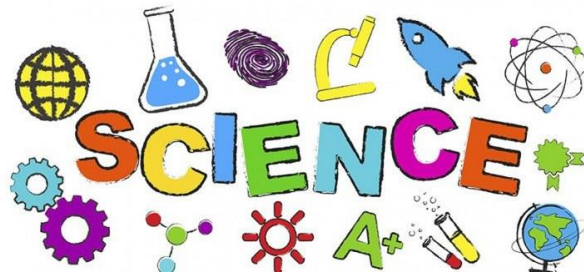
Attend school events. Go to sports events and concerts, attend back-to-school night, parent-teacher meetings and awards events, such as a "perfect attendance" breakfast. Volunteer in your school. If your schedule permits, look for ways to help out at your child's school. Schools often send home lists of ways in which parents can get involved. Chaperones are needed for school trips or dances (and if your child thinks it's just too embarrassing to have you on the dance floor, sell soft drinks down the hall from the dance). School committees need members and the school newsletter may need an editor. The school may have councils or advisory committees that need parent representatives. If work or other commitments make it impossible for you to volunteer in the school, look for ways to help at home. For example, you can make phone calls to other parents to tell them about school-related activities or maybe help translate a school newsletter from English into another language.

Q: What if I don't have time to volunteer as much as I would like?

Even if you can't volunteer to do work at the school building, you can help your child learn when you're at home. The key question is, "What can I do at home, easily and in a few minutes a day, to reinforce and extend what the school is doing?" This is the involvement that every family can and must provide. 40 The schools also need to take steps so that parents feel good about what they're doing at home and know they're helping.

****American Federation of Teachers. (2001). Helping Your Child Succeed: How Parents & Families Can Communicate Better with Teachers and School Staff. Washington, DC. (available online at <http://www.aft.org/parentpage/communicating/index.html>)**

Mrs. Balboa, Science Coach



Tips for Studying Science and being Successful!

- Do the assigned science reading before class discussion.
- Read for understanding and ask questions.
- Scrutinize each paragraph and pay close attention to vocabulary.
- Read each chapter and your notes more than once.
- Don't skip sample problems and examples those are very important.
- Read all the text features such as graphs, charts, and text boxes.
- Check your work by collaborating with a classmate.
- Share what you found during the experiment.
- Redo experiments at home with your family.
- Share with them what is happening in your classroom and the science world around us.

Mrs. Balboa, Math Coach



Fun at Home with Math Fluency

Measuring

Break out the rulers and measuring tape! The beauty of using measurement to appeal to the language of numbers for your child simply comes down to purpose—if something must fit, numbers come to the rescue.

Counting

Have your child help you with taking inventory of the fridge. If you have any kind of garden or fruit bearing tree, have them count your bounty! Use your view from the window and take count of all the birds you see, cars that drive by, dogs on a walk, etc. You can even have your child keep a counting journal of all the things they're keeping track of each day. If they're a sports fan, encourage them to follow player and team statistics and scores.

Estimating

Even adults have fun with this type of guessing game. Put a jar of something out on your counter each week for the whole family to guess the number of items they think the jar contains. After a week or so, take them out and count them (more counting practice!), and have prize for the person who is the closest.

Baking/Cooking

Break out the cookbooks! Aside from the fact that we all need to eat, there is a great deal of fun to be had in the kitchen. Considering liquid volumes and weight measurements in recipes add a new dimension to measurement and immediate purpose to the use of numbers.

Earning

Finally, if measuring and baking don't do the trick, an allowance can certainly pique the interest of any child with their eyes on prize. Help your child develop number sense along with responsibility as they maintain some kind of "account" or piggybank.

Mrs. G. Williams, Literacy Coach



Winter Vacation: 10 Reading Ideas for Families

By [Lydia Breiseth](#) via <https://www.colorincolorado.org>

- **Read together:** Look for some time to read together and talk about the books you read. If you have extra time, read a longer chapter book or children's novel out loud to your child. You will enjoy being together and discovering a good story.
- **Tell stories:** Use some of your holiday time together to tell stories from your childhood. Ask relatives and friends to share their own stories too. Storytelling helps children become better readers. [Family stories](#) are also an important part of your child's heritage.
- **Visit the library:** Check your library's holiday hours and, if you have time, take your children [to the library](#). Encourage your child to browse the children's section — it's the perfect opportunity to see what's on the shelves.
- **Learn about new traditions/holidays:** Look for children's books or Internet articles about holidays you celebrate, special traditions, or other winter celebrations. Your child may have friends at school who celebrate different holidays. You can probably find information about Christmas traditions around the world, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Las Posadas, Three Kings Day, and the Winter Solstice at the library.
- **Give books:** Give your child a book for the holidays. It doesn't have to be new — you can share one of [your favorite books](#) or look for a special old book from a used bookstore! If relatives are looking for gift ideas for your child, ask them to give a book this year.
- **Look for other reading and writing gifts:** Give your child some [comic books, magazines, or special note cards](#) for writing letters. This is a great time to find something connected to your child's interests, like sports, nature, or art.
- **Make travel fun:** If you are traveling during your vacation, look for maps and tourist books about your destination. These are a great way to prepare for the trip — and to pass time in the car or on the plane.
- **Listen to audiobooks:** If you will be in the car for long trips, rent an audiobook from the library. (You can also buy books from [Audible.com](#) or iTunes.) Ask your child to help choose a couple of books for the trip.
- **Write letters and thank-you notes:** Help your child [write letters](#) or e-mails to relatives and friends. Show your child how to write thank-you notes for holiday gifts.
- **Make lists:** Ask your child to help write shopping lists, activity ideas, or television and movie schedules. This is good writing practice — and a big help to the adults too!

Pre-Kindergarten

Preschool is so excited for December! This time of the year is a great opportunity for learning, enrichment, and hands-on activities. Our preschool students will be learning all about different holidays, new seasons, and all the sights, sounds, smells, and tastes that come with this time of year. What a great way to learn about all of our senses!

In addition, Winter Wonderland is back! Many classes will be performing holiday tunes. This year's show will be held on December 12th from 6-8PM at Flanagan High School.

For our kiddos with sensory needs, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts is hosting the following sensory-inclusive performances in December that include reduced sound levels, no flashing or strobe lights, minimal special effects, and a sensory quiet room:

December 9, 2023 – The Nutcracker @ Aventura Center

December 23, 2023 – Disney's Little Mermaid @ Broward Center

In Pre-K, we aim to make December a fun and educational time to promote learning across all areas, and to prepare our students for a deserved and restful winter break.

On behalf of the Pre-K team, we hope you enjoy this holiday season to the fullest!

Kindergarten

Happy holidays to our amazing Kindergarten families. We are so thankful for all the support you have given us so far this year.

We have a ton of fun activities planned.

Math: We will focus on addition and subtraction within 10.

Reading: We will focus on identifying characters, setting and major events in stories. We will answer the question, why do authors write stories? We will continue to practice decoding (tapping out) and encoding (writing) CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words. We will also focus on differentiating between the short vowel sounds. We will continue practicing our pre-primer sight words adding three additional words each week. Please continue to practice these nightly and have students look for their sight words in books.

Science: We will learn about physical changes, such as, cutting, smashing, and tearing.

Social Studies: Our focus will be learning about American History and comparing our lives to those in the past. We are also preparing for our Winter Show on December 12th so please help your children practice their songs. We cannot wait to see what amazing work our Kindergarteners complete this month.

We wish you happy holidays and an amazing end to 2023!

First Grade

Winter in Florida is finally here! Cooler weather and warmer clothes as the holidays are right around the corner. That's right, our first graders will be able to participate and will be immersed in many enjoyable holiday activities at school. First grade is excited to learn about the importance of holidays and how they are culturally celebrated around the world.

Reading/Writing: Students will be comparing and contrasting the adventures and experiences of characters in stories. They will also be identifying basic similarities and differences between two stories on the same topics.

Math: Students will practice their math strategies using addition and subtraction. They will be counting by ones and tens to 120. (Skip counting 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, etc.).

Science: Our marvelous scientists will be learning about water safety and the different ways water is used.

Social Studies: Students will compare life then (in the past) with life now (in present) as they learn about the different holidays celebrated around the world.

Happy Holidays from the awesome 1st grade team!!

Second Grade

Reading: Our scholars are making gains every day. This month, we will identify Characters' Perspective. Questions you could ask your child after reading a literary text are: *Who is telling the story? Where in the story does another character tell what he thinks or what he or she feels about what is happening in the story?* Our scholars will also, identify and explain similes, idioms, and alliteration in texts.

Science: Our scientist will describe how small pieces of rock and dead plant and animal parts can be the basis of soil and explain the process by which soil forms. Together we will classify soil types based on particle size, texture, color, the capacity to retain water, and the ability to support the growth of plants.

Math: Our mathematicians will solve problems involving addition and subtraction. Together we will model problems using equations with unknowns in any position. Mathematicians will use drawings and equations to make sense of problems. They will also model and solve two-step real-world problems using a variety of methods. Lastly, we will determine if equations involving addition and subtraction are true.

Third Grade

Our third graders are busy learning and growing every day!

Reading: Our focus is on the 3rd Grade Benchmark Education Unit 4- Comparing Point of View. Students will continue learning about standards that were previously taught along with learning new standards within the Unit. It is critical that students are present at school every day so, they won't have to catch up on assignments and standards they were taught while they were absent. Please continue having your child read for 20-30 minutes each night with a book to build fluency and comprehension skills.

Math: Students will continue to work on strategies to use when multiplying and dividing through word problems and equations and Geometry. Practicing multiplication facts every night plays a vital part in solving equations and increasing multiplication fluency. Third graders are also responsible for returning their homework assignments, to show their understanding of the skills previously taught.

Information about events that will be happening in December will be coming home soon. Thank you for your continued support!

Fourth Grade

Fourth grade continues to rock in the second quarter!

We are focusing on the properties of water and the law of conservation in mass for Science.

Social Studies will be continuing European settlement and colonies and beginning Florida's journey to statehood. In math, we are on topic 7 number patterns, factors, and divisibility. Continue spiral review on topics 1 – 6.

ELA: We are understanding different points of view. We are practicing writing narrative essays and have been learning to write in cursive. As fourth graders will take the writing test online, have them practice typing skills at www.typetastic.com would be most helpful.

Continue to work on iReady reading AND math! Let's continue our fourth grade adventure....let's continue that ride!

Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade is continuing to push forward!

In December, the fifth graders will be cementing some of the lessons the students have learned regarding the animal adaptations.

Math: Students will be mastering skills of division with 2 digit divisors.

ELA: Students will continue to build their comprehension by mastering the skill of sequencing in a variety of different genres.

A.S.D. (Autism Spectrum Disorder)



Our Pawsome Buddies have been enjoying our monthly meetings and getting to know one another. This month our buddies will be gathering to complete a few fun festivities right before the Winter Break. It's been a pleasure seeing them work together and form friendships. Also, our students have been rehearsing daily in preparation for the Winter Show. We hope to see you all there!

This month, we'd like to highlight the importance of implementing reinforcement for our students. Our teachers use reinforcement throughout the school day for our students. Reinforcement is crucial in teaching students with autism as it helps shape their behavior by providing positive outcomes for desired actions. Utilizing positive reinforcement techniques such as rewards, praise, or preferred activities can help motivate and encourage their learning process. It's important to identify what reinforces your child and tailor your approach to their specific needs and preferences. Consistency and clarity in reinforcing desired behaviors can significantly enhance their learning experience and social interactions at school and home.

Please remember that communication and collaboration between parents and teachers are vital for our students because they create a consistent and supportive environment. Therefore, if you learn that your child's current reinforcer is losing its effectiveness or is replaced with a more desirable item or activity, please communicate this change with your child's teacher so that we can continue to effectively reinforce our students as needed.

Enjoy the Winter Break and have a Happy New Year!

Spotlight on ...



Mrs. Gallo: Media Specialist



Can you believe the holiday season is here?

Thank you for motivating your child to read. This holiday season cuddle up together and read great stories. Continue to create unforgettable memories!

Happy Holidays everyone!

Ms. Organo, S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)



Happy Holidays from the STEM Department!

Our STEM class is learning so much about science. We are always busy in the STEM Classroom. Each grade level is learning various science concepts. The students are becoming experts Scientists and learning critical thinking skills to help them be successful. Here are some of the highlights for the month of December.

PreK and K: The students will investigate and compare the effects of strengths and directions of pushes and pulls on the motion of an object.

1st Grade: The students will recognize that all plants and animals, including humans, need the necessities of air, water, food, and space.

2nd Grade: The students will be learning about the organization and development of living organisms.

3rd Grades: The students will be learning about interdependence and photosynthesis.

4th Grades: The students will be learning about magnetism.

5th Grades: The students will be learning about changes in matter.

Mrs. Thomson, School Counselor



Our Harvest Drive was a big success. We collected over 30 boxes worth of items! We thank all the families that donated goods and money to those in need. This gave our students an opportunity to help others and show kindness.

Our character trait for the month of December is **Kindness**. Oftentimes, we repeat the golden rule to our children: “Treat others the way you want to be treated.” It is important for parents to model what being kind looks like with their children and in their interactions with others. When children see their parents and adult role models showing kindness, they will likely follow their example and show kindness to others. During the holiday season, there are many ways to show kindness to those in need. Your acts of kindness towards others will not be forgotten by your children.

Are you interested in life skills and wellness resources? Please visit:

<https://browardschools.instructure.com/enroll/WDB374> to enroll in the life skills and wellness Canvas course for families and students. This site also provides activities and resources to support life skills and wellness at home. You can register for a free Rethink Ed account too.

Please reach out if you have any questions: meagan.thomson@browardschools.com

Contact Us



"We, the Panther Family, are committed to ensure, that ALL students receive a quality education within a safe and nurturing learning environment."

Pasadena Lakes Elementary

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Visit us on the web at www.browardschools.com/PasadenaLakes

Follow us on Social Media:

Twitter: @PasadenaE

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PasadenaLakesE>

If you would like to share your photos with Pasadena Lakes Elementary, please email photos to:

PDE_Yearbook@browardschools.com **Subject:** For use in Yearbook

Photos submitted will become the property of Pasadena Lakes Elementary and may be used for the Yearbook or Social Media such as Facebook or Twitter!



School success starts
with attendance

