

Upcoming Events

December 22nd – January 7th
Winter Break

JANUARY

8th
Students return
Start of 3rd Quarter

9th
Spirit Night Vampire Penguin
6pm-9pm

10th
Girlfriends @ Lunch Centennial

15th
Martin Luther King Day – NO SCHOOL

17th
All Pro Dads 7:30am Centennial
5th Grade Rotary Luncheon

19th -26th
Book Fair in Media Center

22nd
Awards Assembly (4th -1:15pm,
5th -1:45, 3rd 2:15pm)

23rd
Bugs and Bagels 7:30 Centennial
PTA General Meeting 6pm
Literacy Night 5-7pm

24th
Principal's List Breakfast 7:30am
Centennial
Girlfriends @ Lunch Centennial
Ready, Set, Kindergarten 5pm

25th
PMAC 3pm

26th
Hawk Huddle 8:45am

CLUBS

Girl Scouts Every Tuesday
Centennial @ 3:00pm

Beach Club Every Thursday
Centennial @ 3:00pm



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Message From Mr. Cerreta

Dear Seminole Elementary Families,

With the holiday season upon us, I wanted to express my warmest wishes to each and every one of you to have a safe and restful winter break. Thank you for all of you have done to support our school, our teachers and our students this year. I hope that your winter break is filled with warmth, love, and quality time with the family. I look forward to seeing all of our students when they return to school on Monday, January 8, 2024.

Thank you to all of the Seminole teachers, staff, and PMAC for hosting our Winter Fest last Thursday evening. It was great to see so many families on campus enjoying the event and the smiling faces of so many students.

I'm so proud of the grade 4/5 chorus, Seminole Beats and the kindergarten students for their performances at Seminole High School. You are all amazing!

Congratulations To Our Outstanding Readers:

One aspect of our School Wide Reading Program is for the students to read each night 45 minutes for Grades 3-5 and 20-30 minutes grades K-2.

After students read a book or have a book read to them, they take an Accelerated Reader test to earn Accelerated Reader points.

Congratulations to the following students for earning 35 Points for 1st Grade, 50 Points for 2nd Grade, and 100 Points 3rd – 5th Grade.

1st Grade- 35 Points

Salma Halaweh

2nd Grade – 35 Points

Bennett Humphreys

3rd – 5th Grade – 100 Points

Sean Kier

2023-24 Accelerated Reader Individual Recognitions

Recognitions	1 st Grade	2 nd Grade	Grades 3-5
Bubbled on morning show	15 points	25 points	50 points
Name in the newsletter	35 points	50 points	100 points
Accelerated Reader certificate	60 points	75 points	150 points
Reading medallion	85 points	100 points	200 points
Handprint on wall	110 points	125 points	250 points
Gold star on sidewalk	225points	250 points	500 points
Name/design ceiling tile	350 points	375 points	750 points
Name on plaque in office	450 points	500 points	1,000 points

Charcter Kids for December

PREK

Piper – Nelys Perez
Hayduke – Weston Edwards

KG

Schuler – Mallory Dziadul
Conde – Nora Bramlett
Horton – Ryder Bailey
Blake Vieno

1st

Calhoun – Josiah Hernandez
Benjamin – Emery Culbreath
Mucerino – Avery Wright
Luczaj – Bella Huntoon-Pickartz

2nd

Sadock – Ella Twiss
Patterson – Lilly Toland
Poolson – Amayah Smith

3rd

Morgan – KC Dominguez-
Infante
Kopkau – Quinn Sperling
Rudolph – Diana Rizo-Padilla

4th

Cröse – Ajna Goxhaj
Rongey -Jaxson Burton
Brady – Sydney Vieno

5th

Gorman – Numan Demirel
Georgiadis – Dylan Seymour
Lentz – Maya Walsh

Multi Grade

Steiner – Zoey Heyder

K-Kids Showing Character Traits



Our K-Kids showed character traits of kindness and charity by creating ornaments for residents of Freedom Square .



Message From Dr. McCafferty Assistant Principal

Dear Families,
Our FAST PM2 window ended 12/21 and our students worked very hard to show all they have learned so far this school year. You received your child's scores reports this week which share how your child performed. Please ensure you sign and return the paper indicating you have seen the report. If you have any questions for your child's teacher or for me, please write them on that paper as well. We will return the copy to you after we have received acknowledgement on the report that states you have received it.

The Department of Education has included levels for all grade levels now so K-2 families will see a level included in the report. These levels are outlined below:

Level 1 – Well below grade level

Level 2 - Below grade level

Level 3 – On grade level

Level 4 Proficient

Level 5 - Exemplary

At Seminole Elementary, we work hard for everyone to be at or above grade level (Level 3 or higher). If your child is a 3 or higher on PM2, that's great; they can still make growth within those levels and show even more learning gains. If your child is a level 1 or 2, please work with your child's teacher to see what you can do at home to support your child in achieving grade level success..

Sincerely,
Dr. McCafferty



How To Build Fluency with Poetry

Do you have a child(ren) with poor oral reading fluency? For example, their reading is slow, they frequently stop at unknown words. They lack expression when they read or struggle with decoding words. Fluency is the bridge from decoding words to comprehension, which is ultimately where children need to arrive.

Research has shown that repeated reading of a text will improve oral reading fluency through the use of poetry. Poetry has melody, rhythm, pacing and pitch that supports fluency skills such as prosody, which is reading with expression.

Here are steps to follow to use poetry to build fluency at home.

1. Choose a short engaging poem.
2. You read the poem several times while your child listens and follows along.
3. Have your child read the poem with you several times. You can read it together line by line or you can read a line and your child can then repeat the same line.
4. Practice this poem with your child for several days or until you feel they are reading it fluently and then have them perform the poem to another person.
5. Put the poem in a folder for your child to go back and read at a later time.
6. Choose a new poem and follow the previous steps.

Remember, fluency will help your child with comprehension of a text.

RISE

Respect/Responsibility
Integrity
Self-Control
Empathy

Guidance Corner
from Mrs. Moore



This week at Girlfriends Club, our theme was party planning. The girls worked as a team to plan their own holiday party. They made their own ornaments with the help of our friends at Hustle & Heart, received their pearl necklaces, and enjoyed Christmas cookies and a charcuterie board. We hope they felt celebrated and inspired to have a holiday party of their own.



Music News

with Mrs. Marr



Thank You, Panda!



Thank you, Panda Express, for donating \$800 to our music room! We were able to purchase instruments, puppets and this amazing new music carpet!

This week in the music room...



Ms. Lentz ROCKS!

Thanks to all who helped make this year's holiday concerts so memorable. Special shout out to our very own #THE IT FACTOR teacher, Ms. Brady! Thanks for all your help this year.



Ms. Brady
HOLLY BRADY

Recorder News

Recorder playing has begun! So proud of all our 3rd Graders for a great first lesson using this tiny woodwind instrument, the recorder.



December 2023



On January 24th at 5pm, discover what your child will learn in kindergarten. Children will develop and refine social and emotional skills, managing feelings, sharing materials and resolving conflicts with words. Learning is guided by Florida's B.E.S.T. standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics as well as standards in science, social studies, physical education, health education, visual arts and music.

Office and PTA News

Please Bring ID

Please bring your photo ID when you come into the school office to sign out your student, check in for conferences, or to meet your student for lunch.

Picking up Students Early

If you are planning on picking your student up early please notify the office in advance so we can have your student ready for you. Early pick up of students should occur before 2:15 p.m.

Lost and Found

Our Lost & Found is already accumulating items. Please label your student's water bottle and lunch box with their initials so we can return lost items.

Clothes Closet:

Please consider donating any gently used shorts to our clothes closet. We are still in need of shorts (sizes 6-14). You can bring donations to the front office.

Volunteering

We want to say a BIG thank you to our volunteers who helped in the Winter Shop. They helped make this a successful event for our school. The students had so much fun making purchases for family and friends!

If you are interested in volunteering at our school, please register at www.pcsb.org/volunteerregistration. It can take up to 3 weeks for a volunteer registration to be approved by the district.

PTA

The next PTA meeting will be on Tuesday, January 23rd at 6:00 p.m.. These meetings are open to all of our school families whether they are PTA members or not. This meeting is paired with Literacy Night.

Art News



Winter Art Abounds in the Art room this December! Kinder artists cut and collaged shapes into a wintery house scene. Second graders used watered down glue and tissue paper, as well as pieces of paper to create a mosaiced winter tree landscape. They used the magic or folded paper to create symmetrical trees, each with a different shape!

Kinder Artists (Schuler)- L to right-Kat, Kevin, Sonny
Second Grade (Patterson)- L to right- Taylor, Jenesis, Lilly



Fine Motor Corner

by Kimberly Meyer, MS OTR/L
our school based Occupational Therapist

What is your NEW YEAR RESOLUTION?

The coming new year is a great time to reset priorities and is a chance to start over from scratch! As adults, some of us aren't the best at keeping our resolutions but at least we are thinking about some positive changes that we can make for ourselves in the coming new year! This could also be a good time to talk to your child about the idea of a fresh start or resolution. Maybe they can keep you accountable as much as you keep them accountable to it! Here are a few ideas for kids. It's super important to keep it realistic and personalize them to your own family schedules, habits and most importantly, keep it as fun as possible.

1. Eat healthier (be specific to gear this goal to your child's needs)
2. Get in 15 min of uninterrupted reading time per day. (is there a funny book you can take turns reading?)
3. Get outside to play for 15 to 30 minutes per day. (playground, backyard, sidewalk drawing, bike riding)
4. Learn to (do something new this year).
5. Clean up my toys before bedtime (make it a game to race the clock or finish before a song ends).

Remember, even if one week doesn't go well, don't give up on the idea. Each day is a chance to begin again and try to establish this new routine. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!!

The Minute Clinic from Nurse Leslie

It is definitely cold and flu season and there are also many other viruses affecting all of us.

That said, please keep your student home if they complain of feeling sick. Not all viruses cause fever, and they are still very contagious.

For Flu or influenza-like symptoms, children may return 5 days after symptoms began or when active signs of illness has resolved. Students MUST be fever-free for 24 hours WITHOUT the use of fever-reducing medicine like Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen. Fever: Oral temp greater than 100, tympanic (ear) greater than 101.

Vomiting: Can return to school when vomiting has resolved for 24 hours.

Diarrhea: Can return to school when diarrhea has resolved for 24 hours.

We have a brochure at school called : When Can My Student Return To School? Please pick one up.



Business Partnerships

Seminole Elementary has many opportunities to partner with the businesses and organizations in our community. To find out how your organization can partner with our school please contact Heather Plankey in the school office at (727)547-7668 or plankeyh@pcsb.org

Thank you to the following organizations for their support of our school:

Remax Hustle & Heart Group
 Seminole First Baptist Church
 VFW Post 9272
 Osteria Bricco
 Treasure Island Fun Center
 Dairy Queen
 McDonald's

PDQ
 Kiwanis Club of Seminole
 Seminole Women's Club
 El Jalisco
 Anona United Methodist Church
 Curlew Hills Memory Gardens
 Enchanted Solutions & Engravings

Horace Mann Insurance
 5/3 Bank
 Seminole Elementary PTA
 The Backpack Lady Project
 Sub Pubs Restaurant Group
 Smuggler's Cove Mini Golf

Business Partners & Community Partners:

We have MANY wonderful organizations to thank for our Holiday Assistance Program:
 VFW Post 9272
 Masonic Lodge
 Seminole Rotary Club
 GFWC Seminole Jr. Women's Club
 Seminole CEL Students
 1st Baptist Church of Seminole
 The Moser Family



Our next Spirit Night will be at Vampire Penguin on Tuesday, January 9th from 6-9 pm. Flyers will be sent home with more information.

Jack Hartmann at Seminole Elementary



Seminole Elementary

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 Seminole FL 33772
 (727)547-7668

www.pcsb.org/seminole-es

Louis Cerreta
 Principal

Dr. Jennifer McCafferty
 Assistant Principal

Dywayne Hinds
 Area III Superintendent
 (727)588-5020

Holiday Events Around Our School

