



# Seminole Elementary Times

April/May 2023

Issue 9

[www.pcsb.org/Seminole\\_es](http://www.pcsb.org/Seminole_es)

## Dates to Remember

May

1<sup>st</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

- BOGO Book Fair

16<sup>th</sup>

- Spring Concert 6pm Seminole HS

17<sup>th</sup>

- Volunteer Brunch 10am

19<sup>th</sup>

- Accelerated Reader Drum Circle Celebration – PE Court
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance 5-7pm Centennial
- Last Day Laptops go home

22<sup>nd</sup>

- FT – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Patrol/Seminole Live/PMAC TI Fun Center 9:30am

23<sup>rd</sup>

- Rising Up Pre-K Program - Centennial
  - 9am Green/Piper
  - 10am Jost/Hock
- Rising Up Kindergarten Program
  - 1pm All K – 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist of Seminole
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards 6pm Seminole HS

24<sup>th</sup>

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Day
- Awards Assembly Centennial
  - 4<sup>th</sup> – 1:45, 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:15

25<sup>th</sup>

- Last Day of School
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Clap Out 12:45pm
- Dismissal 12:50pm
- Report Cards Distributed

June 5<sup>th</sup>

- Summer Bridge Begins



School Hours 8:45 a.m. -2:55 p.m.

- Students cannot be dropped off before 8:10 in the morning.
- Students need to be seated in their classroom by 8:45 a.m.

## If You See Something Say Something



[www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern](http://www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern)

Look for Warning Signs. If you see something suspicious Say Something. Report by going to [www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern](http://www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern)



<https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleElementaryHawks>

## A Note from Principal Cerreta



Dear Seminole Elementary Families,

It is hard to believe that there are only 4 weeks of school remaining for the 2022-2023 school year. It has been an amazing year! I am so proud of our students and feel blessed to be part of such an amazing school and community. At Seminole Elementary the learning never stops as we prepare for the end of the school year and start of Summer Bridge.

### Summer Bridge

Summer Bridge programs will take place June 5-June 29 Monday- Thursday from 8:00-2:00. Families can learn more at [www.pcsb.org/summerbridge](http://www.pcsb.org/summerbridge). R' Club will be offered FREE OF CHARGE for Summer Bridge students 6:30 am- 6:00pm. Please be sure to register with R' Club to reserve your spot.

### Teacher Appreciation Week

The week of May 8-12 is Teacher Appreciation Week. Help us celebrate our teachers by showing our appreciation for all of their hard work and dedication. See attached flyer.

### Volunteer Appreciation

Seminole appreciates all of our parent and community volunteers. Please join us for our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday, May 17 at 10am in the Centennial Building. Please RSVP Heather Plankey @ [plankeyh@pcsb.org](mailto:plankeyh@pcsb.org). We appreciate all that you do for Seminole Elementary.

### Last Day of School Dismissal

Summer is fast approaching. The last day of school for students is Thursday, May 25th. Please note that this is an early release day and students are dismissed at 12:50.

### Important Information about 2023-2024

1. If your child is currently registered at Seminole Elementary, you do not have to register your child for the next school year. You will receive information regarding your child's homeroom teacher via the U.S. mail approximately 1 week prior to the start of the school year. At the beginning of the school year we ask that you update your child's emergency card.
2. Grade 5 students going to middle school do not need to register, the information will automatically roll over.

### Address Changes

If you moved or are planning to move over the summer, you must change the address in Student Reservation System and verify with the school.

### Campus Tours

We are offering campus tours to our incoming kindergarten parents. Please contact the school at 727-547-7668 to schedule a tour.

### Transportation Ridership Campaign

To provide greater efficiency with bus transportation for the 2023-2024 school year, The PCS Transportation Ridership Campaign is asking for parents to please complete the Ridership form. This should only take a few minutes. Please see the flyer and step by step directions attached.

### CONTINUE ON PAGE 2

## It's Not Too Late to Purchase a Yearbook



If you missed the deadline to purchase a yearbook, you can still order and have the yearbook shipped to your home.

The cost is \$15 for soft cover or \$18.50 for hard cover plus shipping and handling.

1 Go to: [www.treering.com/validate](http://www.treering.com/validate)

2 Enter your school's passcode: 1014920224433910

To purchase and customize your yearbook, you must be a parent or guardian 18 years or older.



## Keeping Students Safe



In an effort to add continued safety to our campus, beginning May 1, 2023, all office doors will remain locked. Please use buzzers on doors or gates, to gain access onto the school grounds.

## Learning Environment Form

The process of class placement is sensitive and complex for teachers, parents, and the administration. Each year grade level teachers work closely together with a multi-disciplinary team to create future classes that meet the following criteria:

- balancing a range of achievement, social-emotional and readiness levels in each class
- balancing the number of students in each class receiving special services and additional support
- balancing gender and number of students
- balancing the inter-relationships of various combinations of students, including behavioral social and emotional consideration

These factors are given time and careful consideration by the classroom teacher, special area teachers, specialists, as we determine class assignments. Your input is invited in terms of the parental perspective as to the needs, strengths, and weaknesses of your child, including peer groupings. If you would like to communicate these needs, please complete the enclosed Learning Environment Form, no later than May 19th. **This form is optional.** The teachers and staff are well aware of the talents and challenges of every child, and we ask that you trust us to do the best for your child. Teachers do not assign students to particular teachers. They create balanced classes and administrators assign teachers to their class lists. **Please do not make specific teacher requests.** While we are greatly receptive to parental input regarding your child's needs, it is not possible or appropriate to accommodate parental requests for specific teachers. Our goal is to balance classes in ways that ensure academic, social and emotional equity.

**Congratulations To Our Outstanding Readers:** One aspect of our School Wide Reading Program & AR is for the students to read 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 AR test to earn AR points. Congratulations to the following students for earning 100 points grades 3-5 and 50 points grades K-2

Jaidon Cunningham	Giancarlo Durante	Salvador Espinal	Aaron Novak	Logan Frazee
Brantley Heintz	Tanner Highnote	Shayne Jackman	Rowan Plomatos	Zaiona Rosado
Kamryn Smith	Tiffany Chen	Noah Hoang	Colton Steinbach	Layla Eversole
Lainey Gamache	Kayla King	Tristan Hollingsworth	McKenzie Tran	Delacruz
Nathaniel Maddell	Julius Morales	Elliot Sperling	Reagan Stanton	Addison Bragg
Zaiden Cramer	Lowell Dornig	Marisa Drake	Lennon Faust	Zaiden Cramer
Zoey Jost	La'Kiriah Lee	Lillian McElgun	Sophia Mlynarski	Gage Steiner
Chloe Proudlock-King	Malcolm Witherspoon			

## Battle of the Books

Congratulations to Mrs Rongey's Remarkable Readers. They won the semifinals of the Battle of the Books. They competed against Rawlings, Safety Harbor, San Jose, Seventy Fourth St, Walsingham, and Sexton Elementary

A Message from Assistant Principal Dr. Jennifer McCafferty



Dear Families,

## We need your help!

Pinellas County Schools is requesting our families complete a Transportation form. The purpose of this form is because. PCS Transportation Department currently routes busing for 36,000 eligible students each year. Typically, only 22,000 students utilize transportation services. By asking families to make a selection and auditing our data, we can streamline the routing process for further efficiency. Families can indicate their transportation needs by logging in to their parent account in FOCUS at <https://focus.pcsb.org/focus/index.php>. After logging in, you will be immediately prompted to complete the transportation ridership form. A separate form is needed for each of your students. If you have any questions, please call or email Dr. McCafferty at 547-7668 or [mccaffertyj@pcsb.org](mailto:mccaffertyj@pcsb.org)

## Progress Monitoring

Progress monitoring 3 testing is here! Our students are ready to show what they know. Please be on the lookout for specific days in which your child is testing. The graphic below shows the weeks we will test certain grade levels. Visit [flfast.org](http://flfast.org) for specific information related to the tests. If you have any questions, please reach out to Dr. McCafferty by email at [mccaffertyj@pcsb.org](mailto:mccaffertyj@pcsb.org) or 727-547-7668.

Thank you for your continued support!

## P3 Testing

Week of:

4/24	K-2 ELA and Math
5/1	3-5 ELA
5/8	5 <sup>th</sup> Science

## April Character Kids

<b>Pre-K</b>	
Piper	O'mell Kinder Owen Frankiewicz
Scott	Emerson Gorman
Jost	Milo Morales Cecilia Reynolds
<b>Kindergarten</b>	
D'Altilio	Zach Daniels and Nova Crowder
Horton	Sebastian Murchake Bella Serrano
Schuler	Robert Meade
Conde	Kailynn Osborne
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>	
Mucerino	Allora Keohavong Lily Meade
Luczaj	
Brady	Ryleigh McKnight Avery Brookins
Slaughter	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>	
Carlson	Zaiona Rosado
Poolson	Nicolas Dias Souto
Calhoun	Quinn Sperling
Patterson	Ana Lewarne
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	
Sadock	Savanah Parks
Rudolph	Tiffany Chen
Kopkau	Kristine Tardif
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	
Harty	Nataly Morales
Rongey	Mya Johnson
Crose	
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	
Gorman	Kadince Byrnes
Lentz	Ava Tucker
Sanders	Gage Steiner
Napoli	Malcolm Witherspoon
Capitosti	Havoc Morrison

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Enterprise Village



**1. Get into a reading routine with your kids over the summer to ensure they continue learning.** Set aside time for reading everyday whether it be right before bed or a certain time during the day. For younger children, let them choose a book that interests them. For older children, choose a book that will interest them and try offering an incentive system to get them to read on a consistent schedule. An example would be to offer them a sweet treat or small reward for every book they read. Literacy is the foundation of all learning. Over the summer it is more important than ever that children continue to read and strengthen their literacy skills.

**2. Help them discover these educational tools that won't bore them to tears.** Khan Academy recently added fantastic "Get Ready For \_\_ Grade Math" programs designed for kids to take over the summer and fill in any knowledge gaps that may have built up over the years. Narbis smartglasses: For kids with ADHD, or those kids who simply have trouble focusing, spending time away from the structure of a classroom environment can exacerbate attention issues. Narbis at-home smartglasses use neurofeedback to measure brain activity and help kids with attention disorders. Sensors in the Narbis glasses and a NASA-patented algorithm track how relaxed, distracted, and focused you are to help the brain practice focus and attention.

**3. Set up a daily routine, including quiet time.** Establish a basic daily routine with a picture chart for pre-readers or a simple list for older children. This can include meals, hygiene, setting the table, making their bed, and outdoor play or exercise. Create a few clear family rules or expectations for the summer. This will ease the transition for when the children return to in-person school. It will also reduce the stress of the increased demands by having established expectations for behavior for your child. Have your child use the summer to work on writing with a pencil in a journal. They can write about what they would like such as sending a letter to their grandparents.

**4. Use games to enhance learning and information retention.** It is extremely helpful to use games, life skills activities, and family time to enhance learning and retention of information. Games such as Uno, Monopoly or Memory will extend topics taught in school to other activities that will help children use these skills in a variety of situations. This will also help with working memory and social/emotional skills such as patience, empathy, and teamwork.

Learning during the summer won't look the same as learning at school. Sticking to a simple schedule that includes reading, math through real-life situations, and writing will keep the brain alert and will prepare your child for the new school year.

**Art News**



Art Club has started to meet for 6 Fridays in the Art room with Ms. Art and guest artist Beth Warmath. We have begun creating mosaic panels to label the buildings at school with upcycled bottle caps. Bottlecaps will also be used to make large flower garden sculptures that will be placed throughout Seminole's campus!

**Seminole Elementary's 2022-23 Battle of the Books Winners**



Mrs. Rongey's Remarkable Readers for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in the district virtual semi-finals on April 17, 2023. The team members are Amya Auten (Team Captain), Maya Walsh, Layla Eversole, and Braydon r. These amazing readers will represent our school in the district finals on May 28<sup>th</sup>.



by Kimberly Meyer, MS OTR/L our school based Occupational Therapist  
Let's talk about chores.

Chores for kids can be easy tasks and there are ways to make them fun and motivating for kids to do. Although sometimes it can be more work for you to get them started at first with chores, it teaches very valuable life skills. A sticker / incentive chart or an allowance can be helpful motivators or even just a checklist that they can check off after their chores are completed. These chores should be fairly quick but provide them with a sense of accomplishment when completed. Make it fun using their favorite music or turn it into a game using a timer to "beat the clock". Make it fun and with a reward if possible at the end. Rewards can be as simple as a heartfelt thank you from a parent and a big hug. So many kids do like to feel helpful to you at home. Here are some age-appropriate chores:

**Ages 4 and 5**

- Dust with a sock placed over their hand
- Assist with making their bed
- Picking up their toys and books
- Sorting the laundry light clothes from the darker clothes
- Washing smaller dishes in the sink
- Carrying in some of the groceries
- Folding washcloths and matching socks together

**Ages 6 – 8**

- Taking care of the pets (walk, food, water)
- Vacuuming, sweeping or mopping the floor
- Taking out the trash cans and bringing them back in
- Making their own snacks or sandwiches for lunch.
- Pulling weeds in the garden or flowerbeds
- Watering plants

**Ages 9-12**

- Washing the car
- Washing dishes in the sink
- Loading / unloading dishwasher
- Learning to operate the washer and dryer correctly
- Assisting food preparation
- Folding and putting away laundry including hanging items on hangers.

# Music News

with Mrs. Marr

**March Madness Winner**

Congratulations to Mrs. Sanders, this year's March Madness winner! Her song, *I Want it That Way* by the Back Street Boys, was voted as the favorite song of the Seminole Elementary students this year. Woohoo!

**In music this week...**

We created our own music! We went on a rhythm scavenger hunt and created rhythms using PlayDough and pipe cleaners!

**Chorus News**

Our Spring concert called "*At the Movies*" will be **May 16 @ 6pm** at Seminole High School.



If you would like to donate a gift card from Publix or Walmart that can be used to purchase items for Teacher Appreciation Week please see Heather Plankey in the front office.

Our annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch will take place on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00- 11:00. If you are a Seminole Elementary volunteer we would love to have you attend. Please contact Heather Plankey in the front office to RSVP (727)547-7668.

If you are interested in volunteering at our school, please register at [www.pcsb.org/volunteerregistration](http://www.pcsb.org/volunteerregistration).



There will not be a PTA meeting for May.

We want to thank all of our students and families for a very successful Spring fundraiser. We passed our goal of \$5,000.



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. Families can eat lunch with their student on Wednesday's and Friday's.

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.

### 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.

### Clinic Minute



The school year ends on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Pinellas County Schools policy does not allow us to send medication home with students or store it for Summer Bridge.

Please arrange to come to school to pick up any medication kept in the clinic. Any unclaimed medications will be disposed of on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon without exception.

### Business & Community Partners:

Thank you to the Seminole Women's Club for their generous donations to our Music and Art departments.

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Seminole Elementary would like to thank the Hustle & Heart Group of Remax Collective for continuing to sponsor our Girlfriends group. They are generously donating for all of the needs of this group for the entire school year and attending the meetings. The Girlfriends group is a group of girls nominated by their homeroom teachers for being great examples to other students. The Girlfriends is a Pinellas County Schools program that focuses on empowering girls to be leaders at their current school and in the future. Thank you to the Hustle & Heart Group of Remax Collective for making this possible.

If you would like more information on how your business or organization can partner with Seminole Elementary, please contact Heather Plankey in the front office [plankeyh@pcsb.org](mailto:plankeyh@pcsb.org)

We are currently looking for businesses to sponsor advertising space in the academic planner for the 2023-2024 school year. Please contact Heather Plankey in the front office for details.

We would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their generous donations and support to Seminole Elementary:

- Best Buy (Clearwater)
- VFW Post 9272
- Rotary Club of Seminole
- Pinellas Education Foundation
- Smuggler's Cove
- The Hustle & Heart Group of Remax Collective
- Publix (113th Street)
- Beall's Outlet
- Seminole First Baptist Church
- Oakhurst United Methodist Church
- Vampire Penguin
- Pool Perfection Swimming Pool Builders
- Serafyn Salon
- Horace Mann Insurance
- Frankiewicz Financial
- Danielle Sapp- Berkshire Hathaway
- Northeast Orthodontics
- Seminole Elks Auxiliary
- Seminole Women's Club
- Jessica Saydeh-Mary Kay
- Yard DeSign
- Spenga Fitness
- Coastal Dreams Events
- Seminole Fresh Market
- Seth Michael Photography
- Bay Dermatology



**Seminole Elementary RISE**  
**Schoolwide Expectations**  
**R- Respect/Responsibility**  
**I – Integrity**  
**S – Self-Control**  
**E - Empathy**

**Seminole Elementary**

**10950 74th Ave N Seminole, FL 33772**

**Phone: (727)547-7668**

**Fax: (727)547-7668**

**Web Site: [www.pcsb.org/seminole-es](http://www.pcsb.org/seminole-es)**

**Louis Cerreta Principal**

**Dr. Jennifer McCafferty Assistant Principal**

**Dywayne Hinds Area III Superintendent**  
**(727)588-5020**

