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Upcoming Events

February

- 5th
 - Ready Set Kindergarten 6pm-8pm
- 6th
 - PMAC 3pm
- 7th
 - Mid Period Reports Go Home
- 12th
 - iMoms Centennial 7:30pm
 - Girlfriends 4/5 during lunch
- 14th
 - Valentine's Day
- 18th
 - Class/Group Picture
- 19th
 - 5th Grade Rotary Lunch
- 21st
 - Daddy Daughter Dance Café
- 22nd
 - All County Chorus Concert Mahaffey Theater 12:30pm
- 27th
 - Parent Teacher Conference Night 4:3pm-7:30pm

March

- 2nd
 - Multicultural Festival

AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

- K-Kids - 1st Monday of the Month
- Band - Mondays Music 8am
- Girl Scouts-Tuesdays Centennial 3pm
- 4th & 5th Grade Chorus - Wednesdays 8am
- Ball Hockey - PE Court Wednesdays 3pm
- Beach Club - Thursdays 3pm

If You See Something Say



Something

www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern

Look for Warning Signs. If you see something suspicious Say Something.

Report by going to

www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern



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



Message From Mr. Cerreta

Dear Seminole Elementary Families,

Ready Set Kindergarten

Our Ready Set Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is being held in the Seminole Elementary Media Center on Wednesday, February 5. We are offering 2 sessions for families to choose.

Session #1- 6:00 Session #2 -7:00 Children are invited to this informative family event.

Conference Night

Seminole Elementary will be hosting a parent/teacher conference night from 4:30-7:30 on February 27th. Within the next few weeks, teachers will be sending out invitations for conference night. Our staff will meet with as many families as possible, but won't be able to meet with every family during the time allotted. Please contact your child's teacher if you are requesting a conference.

PCS Annual Stakeholder Survey Opening Soon: Action Item

The Pinellas County Schools stakeholder survey for the 2024-25 school year will be open from Monday, February 3 through Sunday, February 16. Please take a few moments to complete the survey. See attached flyer for details. After completing the survey, return the flyer to your child's teacher with their name on it for a chance to win a \$50. Publix Gift Card.

Imom Breakfast

Please join us for our imom breakfast on February 12 at 7:30 in the Centennial Building. Please RSVP at [Anona.com/apd-imom](https://anona.com/apd-imom).

City of Seminole News

The City of Seminole Recreation Department will host its 7th Annual "Family Fun Night" on Saturday, February 15, 2025 5:30-8:30pm at Seminole City Park, 7464 Ridge Road, Seminole FL 33772. It is free to attend.

They will have an outdoor movie (Kung Fu Panda 4), camp fire, themed craft, family activities and a live DJ. The Fire Union will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs and sodas (cash only please) while the Recreation Center will be selling popcorn and s'mores kits. It is highly recommended for attendees to bring chairs or a blanket to sit on for the movie.

Stay Informed

Please take note of what is on our school marquee, our weekly newsletter, weekend updates, as well as the teacher notes in the student agendas. You may also like and follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleElementaryHawks> for school updates. If your phone number changed, please be sure to update it in FOCUS. I regularly send out important updates via the School Messenger phone system.

Reading

Having all of our students reading at or above grade level is a huge priority at Seminole Elementary. All the research supports the fact that students that are proficient readers are more successful in school. One of the best ways to improve reading skills is by reading daily. The expectation is for all students to read every night and complete their reading logs. After students read a book, they log into Accelerated Reader and take a computer-based quiz. Students earn points for scoring 80% or higher on the quizzes. Every student in grades 1-5 have an individual quarterly reading goal. Please ask your child to share their reading goal with you and their progress towards achieving their goal.

Congratulations To Our Outstanding Readers:

1st – 2nd Grade 50 Points Nora Bramlett, James Dean, Olivia Finical, Joshua Larger, Sunny Lin, Charlee' Lynn

Mcpherson, Luna Miranda-Diaz, Grantley Pedigo, Colton Voisin, Avery Wright

3rd – 5th 100 Points Elle Amatuccio, Elenor Glassmeyer, Colston Green, Savannah Holland, Allora Keohavong, Christian Losada Isaac, Bryce Manning, Daniella Mock, Joby Brown, Miguel Diaz-Loprtre, Giancarlo Durante, Logan Frazee, Manuela Gomes De Figueiredo, Liam Hootman, Braylon Knapp, Anastasia Lewarne, Aaron Novak, Rory Lindberg, Sierra Matczak, Justin Mock, Addison Moore, Abigail Turner, Sophia Woosley

January Rotary Student of The Month

Congratulations to our grade 5 Students of the month for January

Mackenzie Delacruz

Clara Tagler

Emma Maturell

Character Kids for January

PREK:

Scott/Bolden – Reid Bramlett
Hayduke/Mucerino – Jack Cook
Piper/Green – Weston Edwards
Piper/Green – Estrella Quinteros-
McCloughlin

KG:

Horton – Andi Vance
Horton – Gavin Rosamilia
Conde – Sophie Ouellette
Schuler – Brynleigh Bartels-Rosser

1st:

Luczaj – Brady Slaughter
Benjamin – Sonny Frutos-Dodd
Mucerino – Bobby Lyon
Mucerino – Filiberto Valle-Najar

2nd:

Brady – Salma Halaweh
Calhoun – Evan Castellanos
Vidak – Aidenn Wikiera
Sadock – Luna Miranda-Diaz

3rd:

Kopkau – Myla Lopez
Kopkau – Sophia Singkhaopet
Rudolph – Harper Jeske
Rudolph – Andrew Begic
Morgan – Elias Gabbard

4th:

Cröse – Rowan Plomatos
Rongey – Joby Brown
Campbell – Jaidon Cunningham

5th:

Gorman – Isaiah Dillshaw
Georgiadis – Hailee Smith
Moses – Austin Pickenpaugh

Clinic Minute:



Please be aware that there are several viruses going around. Some simple things to keep germs away are frequent hand washing, staying home if you are ill, rest, use a tissue if you cough or sneeze, and use hand sanitizer. We all thank you for staying healthy!

RISE

Respect/Responsibility
Integrity
Self-Control



Message From Dr. McCafferty Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

I hope you and your family had a restful and joyful winter holiday. We are back in high gear supporting your child's learning and we look forward to continuing to work with you to help your child reach his/her social, emotional, and academic goals.

If your child needs a Cycle 2 PMP, it will be sent home for a signature in the coming days or will be shared at conference night. A PMP is a specific, detailed plan tailored to identify individual assistance that will be given to remedy a student's individually diagnosed deficiencies. The PMP is an active working document that reflects what is being done to help remediate a student's deficiencies.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Sincerely,
Dr. McCafferty

Leadership Summit



Congratulations to Salvador Espinal, Joseph Gioeli, Ajna Goxhaj, and Katelyn Aragon for representing Seminole ES at this year's Leadership Summit.

Guidance Corner

From Ms. Moore



This month in our classroom guidance lessons, we have talked about having a growth mindset when we face challenges. My family got a puppy this month, so I have had to put my growth mindset advice into practice at home. I have never had a puppy before, so it seems every day I am learning something new. I am learning about getting less sleep, potty training, feeding, balancing his play time with rest, and giving him the proper boundaries to grow. Some days, I get frustrated, and feel like we take steps backwards, some days I feel like I don't know what I'm doing, and some days I am exhausted! But I look forward to coming home to him every day and remind myself that the hard work we are doing now will pay off in the future! No matter how old we get, having a growth mindset makes a big difference in our attitude toward challenges. As I have told the students, I have told myself that every time we choose to persevere or bounce back after a mistake, our perseverance muscle grows...and that is a muscle we all need for the rest of our lives.

Here is a list of statements the upper grades have analyzed during their guidance lesson to determine if they represent a fixed or growth mindset. As you're sitting around the dinner table this week, read them off as a family and see if you can agree on which ones are fixed and which ones are growth. Share with your students a time when you have had to use a growth mindset. It's important for them to know that we are all lifelong learners.

Fixed or Growth?

It's ok if I don't get it right the first time.

Plan A didn't work. I'll try Plan B.

This is too hard for me.

I don't really want to try this.

I'm going to give this my best effort.

This is going to take some hard work.

I'm not as smart as him/her.

I need to try a new strategy.

I just don't get it.

What am I missing?

Other people say I'm not smart, so I must not be.

Why even bother?

How can I improve this work?

I'll give it another try tomorrow.

I can do hard things.

I made a mistake. What can I do to fix it?

Unified Champions

The Power of Teamwork

Are you planning to watch the Super Bowl? No doubt we'll see lots of examples of excited fans and stories about how the players must work together to win the game.

As a Special Olympics Unified Champion School, we work together and cheer for one another. Take a few minutes this month to talk with your child about teamwork:

- Talk with your child about a time you were a member of a team. How did teamwork make the group stronger? Has your child been on a team? What was the experience like?
- The letters in "team" just happen to stand for "Together everyone achieves more." Talk with your child about how that saying applies to school.
- Have you heard about Fans in the Stands? This program encourages students and families to attend a local Special Olympics event. Does this sound like something our family could do together to have fun and make a difference.

Article from: <https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/tools-tips/raising-readers-what-parents-can-do>

Raising Readers: What Parents Can Do

Learning to read takes practice. Loving to read takes enthusiasm. Read with your child often and create a sense of enjoyment, wonder, and a passion for reading.

1. **Read together every day.** You can read the morning news at breakfast, share a story after supper, or cuddle up for a book at bedtime.
2. **Talk and build vocabulary.** Interesting conversations build vocabulary, language skills, and knowledge about the world. Talk is a child's best source of exposure to new words and ideas.
3. **Model reading.** Kids want to do what the grownups do. Make sure your kids get to see you reading and hear you talk about it.
4. **Point out print.** Read and talk about the words you see in the world around you. There's lots to read—signs, recipes, cereal boxes, instruction manuals, bus schedules, news, maps, and menus.
5. **Visit the library.** Take advantage of all the books, materials, story times, programs, and resources your local library has to offer.
6. **Encourage your child's reading.** Praise the efforts of a soon-to-be or beginning reader.
7. **Keep books handy.** Stash books in your bag to read aloud when you travel or have to wait at restaurants or for appointments.
8. **Start reading traditions.** Beyond bedtime stories, consider a special birthday book, holiday favorites, or a regular family read aloud night.

Art News



Fifth graders participated in a special exhibit that let them be graphic designers this September. Four Seminole artists designs were selected to receive special awards of excellence and one Sponsor award! Here are some pictures of the artists at the Kids Tag Art Reception at Largo High: Isaiah D., Lillian M., Connor O., and Sponsor Award winner, Layla G.!

PE Golden Shoe News



The PE department would like to recognize Ms. Moses' class for being the "Golden Shoe" winner for the month

Patrols of the Month



Congratulations Sydney Vieno and Savannah Parks for being our Patrols of the Month.

OT Corner – From Ms. Meyer

Working memory is a cognitive system responsible for temporarily holding and manipulating information needed to perform complex tasks such as reasoning, learning, and decision-making. It acts as a mental workspace that allows you to retain and process information over short periods, typically seconds to a minute, before the information is either discarded or transferred to long-term memory.

Examples of Working Memory in Action:

- Remembering and dialing a phone number after hearing it.
- Keeping track of the steps in a recipe while cooking.
- Solving mental math problems without paper.
- Holding part of a sentence in mind while parsing its meaning.

Working memory is critical for everyday functioning, and deficits in this area are often linked to learning difficulties, attention disorders, and other cognitive challenges.

A working memory deficit in a child can manifest in various ways, often impacting their ability to manage tasks that require holding and processing information simultaneously. While some struggles may appear typical for the age, persistent difficulties that interfere with learning and daily activities may suggest a working memory deficit. Here's how it might present:

Signs in a Classroom Setting

1. Difficulty Following Multi-Step Instructions:

- The child struggles to remember and complete steps in tasks such as, "Put your book away, grab your lunchbox, and line up at the door."

2. Forgetting What They're Doing:

- They may start an activity but forget what they're supposed to do halfway through.

3. Challenges with Sequential Activities:

- They find it hard to recall the order of tasks, like the steps in a math problem or the sequence of events in a story.

What Can Help?

1. Breaking Instructions into Small Steps:

- Give one or two steps at a time and check for understanding.

2. Visual Aids and Checklists:

- Use charts or visuals to support memory (e.g., morning routines, steps for a task).

3. Repetition and Practice:

- Repeat instructions or provide extra practice for retaining key concepts.

4. Use of External Memory Supports:

- Encourage the use of sticky notes, reminders, or simple strategies like verbal rehearsal.

Remediating working memory deficits in a child involves targeted strategies to strengthen their working memory capacity, support learning, and reduce frustration. This includes structured activities, environmental adjustments, and consistent practice. Here's a comprehensive approach:

Cognitive Exercises and Activities

Engage the child in fun, structured activities that stimulate working memory, such as:

• Memory Games:

- Matching games like "Concentration" or "Memory."
- "I Spy" games requiring them to remember multiple features or items.

• Simon Says:

- Enhances the ability to follow multi-step instructions.

• Backward Repetition:

- Ask the child to repeat numbers, letters, or words in reverse order.

• Story Sequencing:

- Provide a short story and ask the child to recall the sequence of events.

• N-back Games:

- Age-appropriate versions that challenge them to remember items presented "n" steps earlier. The game: "I went to the moon and I brought with me...." (you name an item starting with letter A and the next person remembers the starting phrase and the "A" item and then they follow by adding their item starting with letter B. You take turns.

Music Happenings at Seminole

Congratulations to 3 of our 5th grade chorus singers for being selected to participate in the Pinellas All-County Chorus. Layla Gauthier, Lillian Moser, and Hailee Smith will be performing with 200 other singers across the county at the Mahaffey Theater in downtown St. Pete on Feb. 22nd and 12pm. Tickets for the show are \$10 and can be purchased at the Mahaffey before the show.

All 4th and 5th grade Seminole chorus members will resume chorus rehearsal on Wednesday mornings at 8am starting on Feb. 5th in the music room.

Band is busy learning new things about their instruments and reading music...please mark your calendars for upcoming rehearsals in the music room at 8am. Please remember to bring your music books.

Jan. 27....Percussion

Feb. 10....Trumpets/Trombones

Feb. 3....Flutes/Clarinet/Saxophones

Feb. 24....Percussion



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



Seminole Elementary

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www.pcsb.org/seminole-es

Mr. Louis Cerreta
Principal

Dr. Jennifer McCafferty
Assistant Principal

Dr. Dywayne Hinds
Area III Superintendent
(727)588-5020



Office News

If you need to come into the front office, please make sure you are parking in a visitor space or pull forward to the end of the car circle so you are not blocking people from pulling forward.

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.

We are starting to feel some cooler weather. PLEASE put your student's initials in their jackets/sweaters. This is the time of year that missing jackets end up in the Lost & Found. Unclaimed jackets will be donated soon.

Thank Yous

Thank you to our PTA for providing the food for our Literacy Night! Thank you to VFW Post 9272 for sponsoring our amazing Seminole Elementary Chorus and our Ball Hockey Team!

Volunteering

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

There will not be a PTA General for the month of February. Please join us Friday February 21st for our annual Daddy Daughter Dance sponsored by the Seminole Elementary PTA

2nd Quarter Principal's List Students

Congratulations to the following students for earning the Principals's List for the 2nd Quarter.



3rd Grade

Jessalynn Alincy	Robert Berry	Eleanor Glassmeyer	Bennett Humphreys	Xion Leshore
Bryce Manning	Ryleigh Mcknight	Giovanni Schement	Sophia Singkhaophet	Lillian Soles
Myla Webber Lopez	Fisher Wilson	Beryl Yi		

4th Grade

Joseph Gioeli

5th Grade

Layla Gauthier	Olivia Glassmeyer	Noah Hoang	Lillian Moser	Vuk Veljkovic
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Accelerated Reader Celebration



Please consider doing business with the business and community organizations that partner with our school. We would like to thank the following organizations for their support of our school:

Astro Skate	Frankiewicz Financial	Seminole First Baptist Church	Corebridge/Valic Financial
VFW Post 9272	Seminole Women's Club	Seminole Elementary PTA	Cold Stone Creamery
El Jalisco	The Backpack Lady Project	Sugar Wingz	Plumbing by Paul
Treviso Grill	Frios Gourmet Ice Pops	Beauty Social Salon	Smuggler's Cove Mini Golf
Oh's Taekwondo	Seminole Garden Florist	Sun Pubs Restaurant Group	Kiwanis Club of Seminole
Beach Pizza	Seminole's Best Before & After School Care		