

Upcoming Events

- October
- 2nd
 - PMAC 3pm
 - 3rd
 - Picture Day
 - 4th
 - Flag Football Game
 - 6th – 10th
 - National Fire Prevention Week
 - 6th
 - FT – K Fire Department
 - 8th
 - Girlfriends 11:30am
 - 9th
 - DQ Spirit Night 4-7pm
 - 10th
 - End of Grading Perios
 - 17th
 - AR Celebration Ice Cream Truck
 - 23rd
 - Report Cards Distributed
 - Fall Fest / Trubk or Treat 5:30-7pm
 - 27th – 31st
 - Red Ribbon Week
 - 27th
 - Awards Assembly
 - 3rd Grade 1:15
 - 4th Grade 1:45
 - 5th Grade 2:15
 - 29th
 - FT – 5th Grade FL Orchestra
 - 31st
 - PreK-K Character Parade 9am

AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS (3pm)

- K-Kids – 1st Monday of the month (starting October)
- Girl Scouts – Every Tuesday 3:15pm-4:15
- Beach Club – Every Thursday
- Flag Football – Every Tuesday & Thursday 3pm-4:30pm – Saturday

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>

<https://www.instagram.com/seminoleelementaryhawks/>



Message From Mr. Cerreta

Another month of school has gone by quickly and we are excited to let you know that we have been able to implement many wonderful tutorial and enrichment programs for our students.

- Ms. Robinson our amazing music teacher and her guide dog Realm started auditioning students for Grade 4 and 5 Chorus which meets every Thursday & Friday morning at 8:10 in the music room. It is not too late to join. Contact Ms. Robinson for more information.

Robinsonrea@pcsb.org

In addition to our during the day reading and math tutoring, we also have our before and after school tutoring programs. Before and After School Tutoring – Students have been selected for tutoring programs based on the F.A.S.T assessment data and last year's FSA.

- Promise Time Extra Learning Program with Ms. Sheehan, Ms. Welch, Ms. Pope, & Ms. Baily afternoons 3:00-4:00
- Grade 3 & 4 Reading Tutoring with Ms. Rudolph Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7:15 a.m

• PMAC- Principal's Multicultural Advisory Committee with Ms. Piper, Ms. Green, & Ms. Rosello meet after school twice a month on Thursdays

- Kids Beach Club for students in grade 3-5 is every Thursday in the Centennial Building from 3:00-4:00pm

• K-Kids. (Kiwans Kids) is sponsored by Ms. Morgan and Ms. Moses and will meet the first Monday of each month after school. 3:15-4:15

- STEM- (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)- After school enrichment club for students in grades 2-5 with Ms. Brady & Ms. Grimm .

this issue

Message from Mr. Cerreta **P.1**

Message from Dr. McCafferty **P.2**

Specialists/Title 1 News **P.3**

New Staff Members **P.4**

School to home communication is very important to us.

Each week we send a weekend update to all families via e-mail and the last Friday of each month we send home a hard copy of our monthly newsletter. If you are not receiving our weekend e-mail updates, please contact us at 547-7668 so we can assist you in updating through the Student Reservation System/FOCUS.

School Agenda Planners are also a vital part of home and school communication and are required for all students. Please be sure to check your child's agenda planner daily. Thank you!

The end of the grading period for the first 9 weeks of school is **October 10th**. Report Cards will go home on **October 23rd** Awards Assemblies for 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade are held at the end of each nine weeks in the Centennial Building. For students in 1st, 2nd and grade we place report card award ribbons in the report card envelopes. Awards Assemblies will take place on the dates and times are listed below.

- 3rd Grade Monday, October 27 @ 1:15
- 4th Grade Monday, October 27 @ 1:45
- 5th Grade Monday October 27 @ 2:15

Grades 3-5 Principal List Breakfast is Wednesday, October 29th in the Centennial Building at 7:30 a.m.

Criteria for Awards:

*Only one award will be given to each student that has earned one, with exception to Perfect Attendance *

Intermediate 3-5 Award Criteria

Positive Hawk	All Es & Vs in conduct	Ribbon
Honor Roll	All As and Bs academics & All S and above in conduct	Certificate & Ribbon
Principal's List	All As in academics & S and above in conduct	Certificate & Medallion
Perfect Attendance	No Absences	Certificate

Character Kids for September

PRE-K

Scott Christopher Sutton
Piper Lylah Soles
Green Isaac Briggs
Williams/Bolden Bryan Vidal

KG

Conde Nadiya Swanson
Schuler Ellie Alford
Schuler Levi Allen
Horton Lukas Lamping
Horton Vanessa Singh

1st

Benjamin Catalina Mercado
Luczaj Grant Bauer

2nd

Calhoun Kevin Yang
Sadock Sonny Frutos-Dodd
Brady Gabriela Rudochvilov

3rd

Rudolph Sunny Lin
Morgan Jewel Castro
Bramlett Samara Oliver
Kopkau Salma Halaweh

4th

Rongey Ryleigh McKnight
Croze Jenesis Arellano

5th

Gorman Kevin Bradley
Vidak Quinn Sperling
Moses Caleb Wilder

Multi-Grade

Mucerino Braxton Six
Campbell None

Character Words of the Month

August – Character Education
September – Citizenship
October – Tolerance
November – Patriotism
December – Charity
January – Caring
February – Cooperation
March – Responsibility
April – Honesty
May – Respect



Congratulations to Kalena G. our
Rotary student of the Month

Outstanding Readers

One aspect of our School Wide Reading Program is for students to read 45 minutes for Grades 3-5 and 20-30 minutes for grades 1-2.

After students read a book or have a book read to them, they take an Accelerated Reader test to earn points. Congratulations to the following students for earning 100 points grades 3-5 and 50 points grades 1-2.

1st - 2nd Grade (50 Points)

Elly Yang Kevin Yang Sonny Frutos-Dodd

3rd – 5th Grade (100 Points)

Lillian Soles



Message From Dr. McCafferty Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

It's already more than halfway past the mid-point in quarter one! Our students have been hard at work learning the skills and strategies presented in the lessons our teachers have been meticulously creating for them. We have seen so much growth since August 11 and can't wait to see even more acquisition of benchmark standards as well as student confidence! You have received your child's paper outlining how to access his/her score reports for Progress Monitoring 1. If you have not signed and returned the form to your child's homeroom teacher, please do so ASAP. Additionally, if you need support with accessing your child's scores, please reach out to your child's teacher or myself; we'd be happy to assist.

Since our first progress monitor cycle has closed, we looked at student data and worked collaboratively with classroom teachers, Title I teachers, and others to support your child. We have small groups taking place inside and outside the school day to support each child's needs, but the learning doesn't have to stop once the school day is over!

We love partnering with our families to continue the learning outside of our school walls and wanted to share some resources Pinellas County Schools provides for our students. Research shows that reading is one of the best ways to build vocabulary, increase word exposure, and foster a lifelong love of reading. Strong reading skills support students in mathematics, science, social studies, and in all aspects of life! With MyOn, Accelerated Reader, Amira, MackinVia, World Book Online, and Teaching Books, all of which are located within Clever, there are endless opportunities for your child to find something they are interested in reading and learning about!

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions about any of the above-mentioned resources.

Thank you for your support,

Dr. McCafferty

Art News

Congratulations to the following Artists who have artwork on display at the 2024-2025 Pinellas All-County K-12 Art Exhibition at the PCS Administration Building in Largo! The building will be filled with fresh artwork from all over Pinellas County Schools, and the reception to see the work and get a certificate of participation was on Tuesday, September 16th, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

Blakely Corry Nova Crowder Cannon Knapp Tegan Lindberg
Felicity Sefchick Quinn Sperling Aiden Stanley Kevin Yang

P.E. Highlights

This month K-2 students have been focusing on working in small groups and rotating stations. We used community stations like in the neighborhood. We started balancing skills and are beginning tossing, catching, and throwing at a target. The 3-5 students have completed the fitness testing and are working on goal setting and team building. Our first Golden Shoe Award went to Ms. Crose's 4th grade class. We are off to a great start. Please remember to wear sneakers and bring your water bottle every day for PE.

Guidance Corner From Ms. Moore



This month in our classroom guidance lesson we are doing our annual review of the Safety Rules. We talk about following these rules at home, at school, and in the community. Students learn motions that go with each rule, so I encourage you to ask them to teach you the motions and review the safety rules together!

Rule #1 - Know What's Up! - I know my name, I know my address, I know my (parent or guardian's) phone number

Rule #2 - Spot Red Flags! - If something makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable, you will probably get a funny feeling in your tummy. Pay attention to that feeling, don't ignore it!

Rule #3 - Make a Move! - Think of people you feel safe with. Think of places you feel safe. If something happens that makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable, get away, and go to a place or person that makes you feel safe. If you think something might be unsafe, stay away!

Rule #4 - Talk it Up! - If something happens that makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable, tell one of your safe adults right away! We say that adults are people who are old enough to drive a car.

Rule #5 - No Blame, No Shame - If something happens that makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable, it is always the right thing to do to tell a safe adult. Remember it's not your fault, tell a safe adult.

In the past we have also talked about having a trusted triangle which means students think of a safe adult they can talk to at school, at home, and in the community. I encourage you to talk to your children about who their safe adults are in each of these settings.

Together, we can empower our students to help keep themselves and those around them



Fall in Love with Reading: Ten Simple Things you Can Do at Home – Part 2

<https://www.naeyc.org> - Yi-Chin Lan

6. Encourage storytelling

Encourage your child to tell you a story from time to time or to retell a story after you've read it several times. Don't feel the need to correct how she's telling the story. Let her enjoy the experience of storytelling.

7. Have fun while reading

- Acting out the story while reading by using facial expressions, gestures, body movements, and voices to make the story come to life.
- Making the story relevant to your child's life by adapting the story to include her name, a friend's name, or your pet's name. For example, surprise your child by saying "Olivia, Olivia, what do you see?" when you read Eric Carle's *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*

8. Change your setting!

It can be fun to read books in different places in and around your home. Try reading Eric Carle's *The Very Lonely Firefly* in a dark room with a flashlight. I've read *The Lamb and the Butterfly* (written by Arnold Sundgaard, illustrated by Eric Carle) to a group of four-year-olds on the grass, and when they saw a butterfly fly by, they associated it with the one in the story! You can even ask your child where she wants to read a particular story.

9. Try one of these books that trigger children's interest in reading

Adam Lehrhaupt's *Warning: Do Not Open This Book!* is a great example of a book that draws children into the act of reading. Children wonder: "Why can't I open this book?" and read on. Here are some others:

- *Don't Push The Button* by Bill Cotter
- *Go Away, Big Green Monster!* by Ed Emberley
- *How To Hide a Lion* by Helen Stephens I
- *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- *Maisy's Fairground* by Lucy Cousins
- *My Granny's Purse And My Mummy's Bag* by P. H. Hanson
- *Press Here* by Hervé Tullet
- *Tap to Play* by Salina Yoon

Please Give Us Your Input



Families, please take our library stakeholder survey to give your input.

<https://forms.office.com/r/pKT3qn1jnu>



10. Get to know your child and your own reading style

- Knowing your child and your own reading style is important for three main reasons:
- It offers you an opportunity to observe what interests your child. Be it science, art, interactive books or wordless books, you will figure out her current interest and support her in appropriate ways.
- You won't impose your preferences on your child; instead, you will share what you like with each other and get a chance to explore those beyond your favorites.
- It allows your child to understand and respect that every individual reads differently and it is okay.

There are lots of ways to encourage and enjoy reading. Try these ideas and do more of what your child enjoys.

Office and PTA 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.

Volunteering:

Please reach out to Heather Plankey in the front office to inquire about how to become a volunteer and any volunteer opportunities.

Spirit Nights:

Our second Spirit Night of the school year will be at Dairy Queen (DQ) on October 9th from 4-7pm.

Trunk or Treat



October 23, 2025 5:30-7pm

Register your car now to save a spot

Thank you



Thank you Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast and the donation to our school!



Thank you VFW for your donation to our school!

Social Work Corner

From Ms. Sullivan

Here Today, Ready for Tomorrow!

Success in school starts with being present daily and on time. Seminole Elementary's attendance goal is 95% Daily Attendance Rate.

Our Classroom Winners for the August Attendance Awareness Challenge are:

VPK-- Ms. Piper & Ms. Green

K-2-- Mrs. Calhoun

3-5 --Mrs. Campbell

These classes will have a special attendance banner on their classroom door and will receive additional time at recess on the last school day of the month. GREAT JOB!

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work. Let's all Strive for GOOD ATTENDANCE! (attendanceworks.com)

Good Attendance	Student has missed fewer than 5% of school days (generally less than 4 or 5 days in a semester)
At-Risk	Student has missed between 5% and 10% of school days (generally between 5-9 days in a semester)
Chronic Absence	Student has missed 10% or more of school days (generally 9 days or more in a semester)

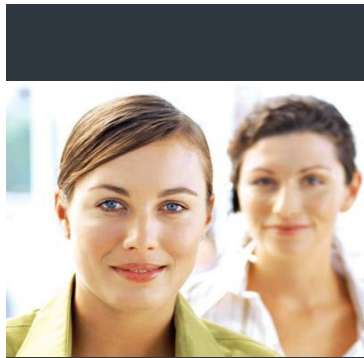
Unified Champions

September: Friendship and Acceptance

As a Special Olympics Unified Champion School, we work to make sure all students have the opportunity to work, play, learn, and grow together. This year during morning announcements, we are sharing weekly messages to reinforce that goal.

This month's theme is friendship. Here are a few ways to start a discussion with your child about what it means to be a friend:

- Share this quote from poet Ralph Waldo Emerson: "The only way to have a friend is to be one." Talk about what that means.
- Share a story with your child about different ways you have made friends over the years.
- What are the benefits of having friends who have things in common with us? What are the benefits of having friends who are different from us?



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



September Do Re Mi-mutes

We are so proud of the 20 4th and 5th grade singers who pre-auditioned for the Florida Elementary All-State chorus. In my teaching experience, this is the first time I have had this big of a turnout for interest in an All-State choir. This takes a lot of courage and bravery from our singers, and furthermore, it proves that music is alive and thriving here at Seminole Elementary. Even if your singer was not selected to move on to auditions, we hope that they will consider trying out again next year. The five singers who were selected to audition will be recording their auditions this week. Please acknowledge the following singers for being selected for this amazing opportunity: Kalena G, Arianna K, Zaiona R, Giovanni S, and Kylyn W. Four out of the five singers participated in a weekend workshop earlier this month at High Point elementary with 4th and 5th grade singers from across Pinellas County to further their musicianship skills and prepare for the audition. We are proud of the dedication from these singers and their home adults.

We are still accepting sign ups for the 4th/5th grade chorus. Please scan this QR code to complete the interest form B because chorus is a commitment and requires focus and from all singers, the following is considered when making decisions: last year's academics, behavior, and attendance. The form must be completed and your singer must have been accepted in order to attend rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals take place twice a week in the music room on Thursdays and Fridays from 8:10-8:40



Our fifth-grade musicians have the opportunity to attend an orchestra concert in October as part of the district performing arts curriculum. The field trip for The Florida Orchestra concert is that no charge for students and will take place during the day on October 29 at the Mahaffey theater in St. Pete. Permission slips were sent home this week.

We have finalized the music calendar for the year.

Thursday, October 16th - 3:00-4:00 PM - after school social (4th and 5th grade chorus)

Tuesday, November 11th - 8:15 AM call time for singers - Veterans Day (4th/5th grade chorus: performance 9:00 AM)

Thursday, December 4th - 5:15 PM call time for singers - winter concert at Seminole First Baptist (4th/5th grade chorus: performance 6:00 PM)

Thursday, December 11th - 3:00-4:00 PM - Winter Party (4th and 5th grade chorus)

Friday, December 12th - 5:15 PM call time for singers Winter Fest (2nd grade)

Thursday, February 19th - 5:15 PM call time for singers - Valentines Day (K/1: 6:00 PM performance)

Thursday, March 12th 5:15 PM call time for singers - Multicultural Night (3rd grade: 6:00 PM performance)

Tuesday, April 21st 5:15 PM call time for singers - Spring concert at Seminole First Baptist (4th/5th grade chorus: performance 6:00 PM)

Reach out to robinsonrea@pcsb.org with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Ms. Robinson and Realm

Seminole Times Issue 02 Sept /Oct. 2025

Seminole Elementary

10950 74th Ave N
Seminole FL 33772
(727)547-7668

www.pcsb.org/seminole-es

Mr. Louis Cerreta
Principal

Dr. Jennifer McCafferty
Assistant Principal

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



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	Seminole Lake Rotary	Seminole First Baptist Church	Beach Pizza
VFW Post 9272	Seminole Women's Club	Seminole Elementary PTA	Calvary Chapel Church
El Jalisco	The Backpack Lady Project	Oakhurst United Methodist	Plumbing by Paul
Apple Butter Café	Frios Gourmet Ice Pops	Smuggler's Cove Mini Golf	Oh's Taekwondo
Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast			

Congratulations to Our Staff Members of the Year



Ms. Bell
Teacher of the Year



Ms. K. Mucerino
Classroom Support Staff of the Year



Ms. Plankey
Clerical Support Staff of the Year



Officer Libby
Safety Support of the Year